FBIS DAILY REPORT

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TALKS WITH U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS END

PY141322 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The talks between officials of the Argentine Foreign Ministry and the U.S. Department of State on foreign policy issues ended yesterday afternoon.

The Argentine delegation to the talks was headed by Foreign Minister Dante Caputo and included Secretary for Foreign Relations Elsa Kelly, Under Secretary for Foreign Policy Jorge Mauhourat, Under Secretary for International Economic Affairs Jorge Romero, and Presidential Adviser Jorge Federico Sabato. The United States was represented by Frank Ortiz, U.S. ambassador to Argentina, and officials of the Department of State Development Commission, headed by Ambassador Stephen Bosworth.

U.S. Ambassador Frank Ortiz said at the end of the meeting that the talks were aimed at making an analysis of long-term prospects of the serious problems jeopardizing world peace and tranquillity. U.S. sources indicated that the talks were held in a cordial atmosphere, which shows that relations are improving.

Communique Issued

PY150220 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2230 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Mar (NA) -- The Argentine foreign debt, the question of disarmament, and the situation in Central America were the three main topics analyzed by officials of the Foreign Ministry and the U.S. Department of State this week. This was announced this afternoon in a communique from the Foreign Ministry which reads as follows:

On 12-13 March, an Argentine delegation and a U.S. counterpart, composed of officials from the Foreign Ministry and the U.S. Department of State, conducted a broad and fruitful exchange of views on various international questions. The U.S. delegation was made up of members of the Policies Planning Council, which is charged with long-term analysis of foreign policy issues.

During the talks, the question of the foreign debt was thoroughly reviewed, and opinions were exchanged on the Central American situation, about which our country reaffirmed its position in favor of a negotiated solution to the crisis. The evolution of political processes in Latin America, disarmament questions, and nuclear nonproliferation topics were analyzed, as well as the various regional crises, including Lebanon and the Middle East, the Iran-Iraq dispute, and the situation in Southern Africa.

MEXICAN DELEGATION NEGOTIATING AGREEMENTS

FL131647 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0033 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Mexico City [as received], 12 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Argentine Under Secretary of Foreign Trade Nestor Stancanelli today stated that Argentine negotiations with Mexico to draw up a series of trade and technological agreements are progressing well. The official stated that the outlook is favorable and that all indications are that bilateral trade with Mexico in 1984 could double last year's figure of $180 million.

The Argentine official heads a delegation that is part of the intergovernmental joint trade commission. Both this commission and the commission that is working in the scientific-technological field continued their meetings today at the Argentine Ministry of Trade with the participation of 15 Mexican officials.

Stancanelli stated that the goal of the negotiations is to double the bilateral trade figure but, because work is proceeding on the diversification of trade, this year it may be possible to reach $500 million, which is the maximum established by Jorge Eduardo Navarrete, the under secretary for economic matters of the Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Relations, who heads the Mexican delegation.

Stancanelli stated that, simultaneously with the meetings between the governments of the two countries, meetings began today between groups of Argentine and Mexican businessmen interested in drawing up co-investment and trade operations agreements. The meetings between Argentine and Mexican businessmen within the framework of a bilateral committee demonstrate the private sector's interest in sharing the achievement of increased trade between the two countries with the respective governments, Jorge Eduadro Navarrete said.

Tomorrow, the Mexican under secretary will hold a press conference to report on the results of the meetings of the two joint commissions. Later, the working session that began last Friday will close. It is expected that when the session closes the text of the agreement will be completed for the signatures of the Governments of Argentina and Mexico.

The agreements will include the sale of Argentine agricultural products, Mexican fertilizers, and a vast complementary exchange in the petrochemical, oil, nuclear energy, maritime transport, and air transport fields.

Signs Trade Agreement

PY141213 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2218 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 13 Mar (TELAM) -- Argentina and Mexico have agreed to establish a system of counterbalanced trade that will eliminate payments in foreign currency. This is an unprecedented agreement between the two countries. It will complement normal bilateral transactions within the ALADI framework, in an effort to expand trade in both directions.

The announcement was made today during a press conference jointly granted by Argentine foreign Trade Under Secretary Nestor Stancanelli and members of Mexico's trade delegation, headed by Economic Affairs Under Secretary Jorge Navarrete, which is now in Buenos Aires.

The agreement, which will go into effect in April, will have a settlement clause that will be reviewed every 4 months. The Central Banks of each country will grant mutual credits for an initial amount of $50 million, without limit, since the limit will depend on the expansion of trade.

The officials of the two countries denied that the agreement involves a barter arrangement, and explained that the value of goods shipped in one direction will be stated in U.S. dollars and compensated for in goods shipped in the other direction for an equal value. Thus, there will be no oustanding balance in favor of either country, thus eliminating the use of foreign currency. Navarrete further explained that this type of agreement has so far only been signed with Argentina, because the idea developed in contacts with Argentine Government officials.

In turn, Mexican Foreign Trade Under Secretary Luis Bravo Aguilera noted that during the first 4-month period the system of counterbalanced trade will generate a flow of goods worth $140 million, a large figure when compared with the $160 million in trade between the two countries in 1983. He also said that the new system does not imply that normal transactions paid in foreign currency between the two countries will be eliminated. This is attested by a recent agreement whereby Mexico will purchase 1.4 million tons of grain from Argentina.

## Agrees To Buy Grain

FL141735 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0215 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican Foreign Secretariat officials have said here that Mexico will buy 10 percent of the grain it will need to import in 1984 from Argentina. Jorge Eduardo Navarrete, Mexico's under secretary for economic affairs, and Luis Bravo Aguilera, under secretary for foreign trade, noted that this year Mexico will purchase 1.4 million tons of grain from Argentina within the framework of improved relations between the two nations.

This operation, they said, will force Mexico to reduce its grain imports from the United States and is within the framework of goals mentioned by the government of President Miguel de la Madrid to diversify the origin of the food supply. N varrete said that as long as Mexico continues to import food on a temporary basis, it must diversify its purchases, particularly if it can be done from Latin America.

This is also important for Argentina, he added, because, comparatively, the number of tons exported to Mexico represents 15 percent of its regular sales to the Soviet Union, Argentina's main buyer.

Navarrete also mentioned the excellent results that the joint intergovernmental commissions obtained in 4 days of work. The commissions concluded their task today with the drafting of bilateral agreements in various areas.

The agreements are ready to be signed during President De la Madrid's visit to Buenos Aires in early April, he added. The Mexican official predicted that the visit will bring trade and economic relations, as well as scientific and technological exchanges, closer based on these agreements, which are the result of preparations for the arrival of the Mexican president.

Referring to the agreement on the exchange of nuclear technology, he stressed that no substantial agreements were reached on this matter. He added that, for this reason, Mexico hopes Argentina will join the Tlatelolco Treaty whenever its makes its sovereign decision to do so.

Meanwhile, Nestor Stancanelli, the Argentine under secretary for foreign trade, remarked that his country has the capacity to provide grain to the Mexican market. He explained that the purchases will be made between the National Agency for Popular Supply (Compania Nacional de Subsistencias Populares] and the Argentine National Grain Board [Junta Nacional de Granos de Argentina] with government approval.

The Argentine official did not rule out the possibility that Argentina may buy Mexican oil in the future, as a result of an increase in local demand. Argentina currently is self-sufficient in oil production.

CURRENCY MARKET, REPORTS FOREBODE DANGER

PY141225 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0054 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Mar (TELAM) -- Important economic developments over the last 40 days and the sudden appearance of reports predicting a catastrophic situation for Argentina in 18 months are occurrences that call for comment.

One of those developments is found in the parallel currency market where the U.S. currency, in a spectacular jump, is today selling for more than 52 pesos per dollar. Operators estimate that the parallel market is small, because it can be manipulated up or down with $10-$15 million. Certainly that is not a very large amount to be causing the fluctuations that are taking place, but what sectors can be in the position to inject such sums of money for so many days in a row, widening the gap between the official and the parallel exchange rates and igniting inflationary expectations completely detached from the technical realities of the economy?

During the same 40-day period, two reports began circulating with catastrophic predictions of what will happen in Argentina in the near future, including inevitable institutional repercussions and the likely installation again of an anticonstitutional government. First came the Beri report, which was carried by an international press agency, and then came the report of a U.S. firm, Frost and Sullivan, saying that the Alfonsin government will surely last for 18 months, but beyond that it will only have a 50-percent chance of completing its term.

Finance Ministry experts tonight were saying that such reports may proliferate in the near future, as instruments of a campaign to put pressure on the Argentine Government when it is undertaking important negotiations for refinancing the foreign debt with foreign creditors.

Grinspun Slams Report

PY141625 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0100 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Mar (NA) -- Questioned by NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun tonight stated that the Frost and Sullivan report is "an exercise of the imagination that gives a chaotic view of the country suggesting that the only alternative is a military coup."

Grinspun stated that "there is no evidence that can make us imagine that these apocalyptic predictions could take place," adding that it is "an ominous and unfounded prediction."

Without denying the existence of inherited economic problems, the economy minister stated that "the alternative to these difficulties is not a military coup, but to make the institutional mechanisms and the sovereignty of the people function," and he recalled that soon there will be a partial renewal of the Chamber of Deputies.

Grinspun also said that production and employment are increasing. He added that "the budget will be approved and the foreign trade sector organized before 30 June," after which "these ominous predictions" will end.

SIDE DIRECTOR ON INTELLIGENCE REORGANIZATION

PY142240 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1335 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 14 Mar (NA) -- Today Roberto Pena, director of the Secretariat for State Intelligence (SIDE), has admitted that "it is very difficult" to dismantle and reorganize an "overgrown" organization and that he is currently working on a new study program for the Intelligence School in order "to serve democracy."

Regarding SIDE, Pena said that so far his task has been to "try and reorganize it, and to give it a new spirit."

In a declaration to Radio Mitre, Pena indicated that "my basic task is to change the study program of the Intelligence School and change its objectives and serve democracy."

He reiterated that SIDE has "the task" of "providing information to the president, and that to fulfill this mission it must have an agile structure." The SIDE director said: "I believe we could do with fewer personnel, but it is difficult to dismantle an organization that has through the years created its own overgrowth."

Asked about the well known practice of tapping phones, Pena said that "the information democracy needs can be obtained in much easier ways."

DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS ARMY GENERAL STAFF

PY141228 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Defense Minister Raul Borras was greeted yesterday by the Army High Command during his visit to the Army General Staff. This information was released by an Army source who added that Minister Borras indicated his desire to keep a good rapport with his subordinates and to continue making the changes provided for in the plan for the reorganization of the Armed Forces.

PERONIST DEPUTY: ALFONSIN KNEW OF AIDE'S PAST

PY141950 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 14 Mar 84 p 6

[Text] (NA) -- Peronist Deputy Jorge Matzkin yesterday claimed that President Raul Alfonsin was aware of the past of his aide-de-camp Lieutenant-Colonel Nestor Greppi, who was arrested with two other officers in the La Pampa capital of Santa Rosa on Monday in connection with the torture of political prisoners during the previous military regime. Matzkin, who represents La Pampa in the Lower House, also referred to a telephone call allegedly made by Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli to local judge Jorge Baglietto in order to "find out about Greppi's case". The Peronist provincial government of La Pampa is to pursue the matter further according to Matzkin.

However, Senator Antonio Berhongaray (Radical-La Pampa) denied that there were any irregularities in the case. He also pointed out that the charges against Greppi could fall within the category of "only obeying orders", which was accepted by the Radical administration as a mitigating circumstance in human rights violations in the recent reforms to the Military Code of Justice. The senator also said that Troccoli's call to Baglietto was a "courtesy call" to inform the judge that Greppi could not appear in court.

FIRST DIRTY WAR 'RIGOROUS' ARRESTS VIEWED

PY142000 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 13 Mar 84 p 1

[Excerpts] (NA) -- The Armed Forces' Supreme Council placed retired General Ramon Camps, former Buenos Aires Province police chief, under "rigorous preventive arrest" due to the existence of "evidence" which suggests that he is responsible for certain human rights violations committed during the so-called "dirty war" against leftwing terrorists, Council Secretary Colonel Jorge Gonzalez Ramirez announced yesterday. The Council will also place retired Vice-Admiral Ruben Chamorro, former head of the Navy Mechanics' School, under rigorous arrest as from today, it was revealed last night. Chamorro is also accused of having committed human rights violations during the dirty war.

Camp's rigorous arrest, which was ordered last Friday but only revealed yesterday, marks the first such action taken by the Armed Forces' Council against military officers accused of dirty war abuses.

Rigorous arrest as defined by the Military Code of Justice is ordered when "there is sufficient evidence to indicate that the detainee is guilty of the crime." Gonzalez Ramirez said, however, that the arrest order "does not require the established proof" of a crime but rather can be made "on evidence alone." Under the Military Code the rigorous qualifier is added "when the crime calls for the death penalty, banishment, a long prison sentence, or a demotion in rank."

Questioned on the large volume of cases the Council may have to handle -- the National Commission of Missing Persons has compiled 2,500 accusations of human rights abuses -- Fages [Armed Forces Supreme Council president] said "we're going to keep working as we have up to now," adding that three committees are studying Council cases. One news agency calculated that at the current rate the Council would finish the dirty war trial in 20 years.

FORMER GOVERNOR UNDER PREVENTIVE CUSTODY

PY142030 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1715 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Mar (TELAM) -- Today it was reported at the Court Building that former Cordoba Governor Ricardo Obregon Cano was ordered put under preventive custody for several counts of illegal association, and that his assets, up to 1,000 pesos, were also impounded. This decision was made at the Second Criminal Court of the Federal Capital, confirming a previous court decision made by Federal Judge Siro de Martini. Obregon Cano is being held under arrest in Devoto Prison.

COMMENTATOR SEES CORPORATE MECHANISM AT WORK

PY142045 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Mar 84 pp 1, 5

[J. Iglesias Rouco commentary: "New Corporate Power"]

[Excerpts] Over the last few weeks a number of events have indicated that a corporate mechanism is at work. Here are some of the signs:

1) According to our sources, large groups of government and Radical Civic Union [UCR] members of "leftist" or social democratic leanings appear to be organizing "committees for the defense of democracy" which will soon begin to operate secretly in all neighborhoods and even in all city blocks throughout the country.

These "committees," which will be set into motion by "trustworthy" members of the party, will be made up of representatives of each segment of the population in the area: businessmen, workers, university students, etc. Surveillance of persons and telephones would be conducted -- in fact, it is apparently already taking place -- through concerted actions of these groups which, moreover, would not only carry out "defensive" but also propaganda functions.

2) Ideological differences within the cabinet and other executive levels of the administration, which in any noncorporate government act as balancing and compensatory factors, would be suppressed altogether, according to a decision made in high places. In this regard, the incident involving Mr Gobbi last week was not an accident, and it is likely to happen again. It is not true, as certain government offices have suggested, that Mr Gobbi resigned because of the tension created within the Foreign Ministry by the disagreements with Elsa Kelly. Neither is it true that his departure was prompted by a meeting he held a few days ago with Mr Frondizi and Mr Frigerio, a meeting of which Minister Caputo had not been apprised. This meeting (a luncheon) did in fact take place at the house of Mr De Simone, personnel director of the Foreign Ministry, but Mr Caputo was not criticized at this meeting. Frondizi and Frigerio did insist on the need for a swift rapprochement between Argentina and the United States. Naturally, the foreign minister was aware of the meeting, which was part of Gobbi's official agenda. A few hours ago we talked to the former under secretary, but he merely reiterated the official statement that his departure from the Foreign Ministry "was scheduled" at the time he was appointed to take place around this time of the year (we reported this possibility in this very column in December).

However, the break had more specific motives which, ruling out the business with Mrs Kelly and the abovementioned luncheon, are none other than Gobbi's profound disagreements with the foreign minister regarding relations with the United States, the Central American conflict, and the Malvinas. From what we know, Gobbi opposed the $45 million line of credit which Buenos Aires just granted to the Sandinist regime. He apparently also upheld, in opposition to the foreign minister, a formula for negotiating with Great Britain capable of leading to a formal cessation of hostilities and the launching of negotiations which would initially not include the sovereignty issue, or at least not make it such an important matter. Gobbi opposed the minister by defending the theory that the main foreign problems, such as the foreign debt, the Malvinas issue, and the "dialogue" -- or lack of it -- with the United States, are closely linked and cannot be resolved separately. As we say, this attitude was absolutely incompatible with the decision of the government that it must be ideologically homogeneous. Thus, Gobbi's forced departure marked the end of "pluralism" within the cabinet, or, to be exact, the beginning of the end because, as we said before, more dismissals of high-ranking officials are expected soon.

3) If the suppression of pluralism in high places is one of the main characteristics of any corporation worthy of its name, so is -- as Mr Peron showed us -- any foreign pro-Third World policy that emphasizes anti-Western and especially "anti-Yankee" feelings. For example, the attitude toward Nicaragua, paying no heed to the reports of violations of human rights perpetrated by the Sandinists, and the planned drifting apart from Washington and NATO, which was confirmed recently at a special meeting between Caputo and Alfonsin, is in keeping with almost all corporate regimes from Mussolini on, be they leftist or rightist, even though these regimes do not rule out, as in Franco's case, certain leaning toward the United States, with which it is sometimes appropriate to "enter into military pacts," as General Franco used to say, while rejecting them politically and culturally (if the United States agrees to this, of course).

4) The latest, and successive meals of the president with spokesmen for the businessmen, and his coming meetings with labor union bosses (Lorenzo Miguel included), require no explanation. Everything indicates the obvious purpose of reaching an "agreement for concerted action" without involving the Congress and the political parties; that is, to avoid normal democratic channels because by doing so associations or professional unions are granted vote and voice without having to go through the political parties, thus acquiring their own political status.

5) The same goes for arrangements made between large groups of MCR members and Peronist factions that stand for the union-military pact regarding the "reorganization of the unions." According to our sources, the debate of the famous trade union bill in the Senate is just for "show." This being the case, it matters little whether the bill is approved or not.

6) The unity of party and government does not deserve much analysis either. The UCR has already decided that the head of the nation must also be the head of the party (unless, of course, somebody absolutely trustworthy could be found for the job, something which in addition to being improbable, would do nothing to change this "combination").

7) As the finance secretary, and many other officials, recently showed with his actions, the centralization of the administration, which openly goes against our federal framework, is not only being strengthened but is also giving rise to bitterness because of the deliberate indifference and even contempt with which the central government is treating its peers -- which are not peers in reality -- from the provinces.

8) The personal demagogery, the rule through rallies or popular mobilization, in addition to "multisector groups," complete the picture. In this regard, there is no need to remind anyone of the demonstration which the UCR staged a few days ago with the president speaking from the balcony and everything, and the one that the ruling party is preparing for 23 March. There is even less point in reminding anyone of the politico-sentimental touches with which the president's figure is being adorned, another sign of the looming vertical structure.

As Alfonsin himself said in Mendoza, he now only needs to wear the cap [an allusion to Peron's habit of wearing a small cap on his head to arouse populist sentiments]. But he is already paying visits to military units around the country, seeking the "consensus" of officers for his program, and he is already attending "camaraderie" gatherings, which have always been useful to secure the vertical (as well as horizontal) adherence of high-ranking officers. Is there any need to speak of price "control" aimed at filling stomachs with fantasy, or the totally useless bans on meat consumption?

As the saying goes: It might not be a duck but it has wings and a beak, it jumps, flies, and quacks like a duck. The French say it even more precisely: "Plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose" [The more things change, the more they stay the same].

## SIDE Refutes Allegation

PY142050 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1324 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Mar (DYN) -- Roberto Pena, the head of the Secretariat for State Intelligence (SIDE), has stated that "it is completely untrue" that the surveillance of telephones and persons has been planned in connection with alleged committees for the defense of democracy which seek to play a defensive and propaganda role for the government.

Pena thus countered a report published yesterday by a morning daily in Buenos Aires that was signed by journalist Jesus Iglesias Rouco.

Upon being questioned today during the Radio Mitre program "A New Journey" whether "we could bust that balloon," Pena replied that "you may do so with ease, as it seems to me that it is completely untrue. Unfortunately, Iglesias Rouco is misinformed."

Columnist Iglesias Rouco's rejoinder, aired on the same program, was that "there are no busted balloons, but busted telephones." Iglesias Rouco added that his own telephones "are quite busted and I have discussed this matter with government officials," without solving it. He added that "they told me that it is extremely difficult to resolve."

## RESIDENCE PAPERS TO BE GRANTED TO FOREIGNERS

PY140005 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1550 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Mar (DYN) -- The government has decided to grant residence papers to all those foreigners who can prove they were permanent residents in Argentina prior to 30 November 1983. This is aimed at putting an end to the irregular situation of the immigrants "who have worked for the benefit of the national community."

This measure has been enacted through Decree 780, whose whereas clauses also express an intention of "adopting a firm and rational migration policy that may balance the needs for population with the legitimate rights of the inhabitants of the Republic and of those who want to live in it."

The decree also aims at eliminating the illegal contracting of manpower and at ensuring compliance with the principles set forth in the Constitution, which "calls upon all those people of the world who may want to live on Argentine soil."

The decree establishes that, within the next 180 days, foreigners shall submit the appropriate application, their identification papers, and the documents that sufficiently prove their permanent residence. They shall also declare under oath that they have not been the object of penal action, and they shall submit a medical certificate of psychological and physical fitness issued by an official institution.

Those who can prove to have been permanent residents for more than 3 years will not be asked to submit a medical certificate. Citizens from neighboring countries will need only their passports, any official documents issued in their countries, or a certificate of their nationality.

Those who have diplomatic visas, are political refugees, or are temporary residents studying or undergoing medical treatment shall not be entitled to avail themselves of the right set forth in this decree.

## BRIEFS

ARMY OFFICER RELEASED ON BAIL -- Judge Luis Marino has ordered the release on bail of Colonel Roberto Roualdes, former chief of operations of the I Army Corps, who is charged with being involved in the disappearance of Communist Party member Ines Oyeros. [Summary] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 7 Mar 84 PY]

GRAIN EXPORTS -- Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (TELAM) -- The National Grain Board (JNG) has reported that 547,000 tons of grain were exported in the last week of January and the first few days of February. Brazil bought 87,000 tons of wheat, which means that Brazil has now imported 750,000 tons of Argentine wheat. Mexico bought 100,000 tons of wheat to be shipped in Feburary and March, and 360,000 tons of sorghum to be delivered in February, March, and April. The JNG also reported that, according to private sources, "the USSR has reportedly purchased from 800,000 to 900,000 tons of corn and from 600,000 to 700,000 tons of sorghum from the last harvest." [Text] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0101 GMT 4 Mar 84 PY]

TELEMESSAGE SYSTEM TO U.S. -- Starting 1 March 1984, Argentina will be linked with the United States by a telemessage service, according to a bulletin from the National Enterprise for Mail and Telegraph (ENCOTEL). This service will be operated in the United States by the Western Union Telegraph Corporation. Telemessage services will be routed through the La Plata, Rosario, Mar del Plata, Santa Fe, Cordoba, Mendoza, Corrientes, San Miguel de Tucuman, Bahia Blanca, Neuquen, San Carlos de Bariloche, and Comodoro Rivadavia post offices. [Excerpts] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 29 Feb 84 PY]

NEWS AGENCY DIRECTORS -- Buenos Aires, 9 Mar (NA) -- Today, Engineer Jorge Fascetto of the newspaper DIARIO POPULAR was elected president of the board of directors of NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS S.A. for another 2-year period. Dr Carlos O. Lagos of the newspaper LA CAPITAL of Rosario and Alktyto Segovia of the newspaper LA OPINION AUSTRAL of Rio Gallegos were elected vice president and secretary of the board, respectively. [Summary] [Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1721 GMT 9 Mar 84 PY]

COMFER TRUSTEE APPOINTED -- The national government has appointed Pedro Raul Sanchez as its trustee to the Federal Committee for Broadcasting [COMFER]. Sanchez will take up his post shortly, replacing Dr Angel Lapieza Elli, who died in a car accident in San Luis last Saturday. [Text] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 8 Mar 84 PY]

HEAVY FLOODING IN CORDOBA -- Cordoba (DYN) -- Heavy rainfall in the last few weeks has destroyed approximately 200,000 hectares with a loss of 5 percent of the province's workable land, it was officially announced yesterday. The official statement -- released at the end of a meeting between Governor Eduardo Angeloz and mayors of the districts most seriously affected by the floods -- said 120,000 hectares were under water and the remainder were seriously damaged. The governor ordered provincial administration officials to take immediate measures to alleviate problems caused by the floods. [Text] [Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 10 Mar 84 p 9 PY]

PLANNING MINISTER: NO ECONOMIC PLAN COMING

PY141343 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Yesterday as he was leaving Government Palace, Planning and Coordination Minister Roberto Jordan Pando stated that the government is not going to release an economic package.

Minister Jordan met with the president to discuss matters related to the intense work of the economic team during the past few days. He said that what the government is now seeking is a financial respite, which could be achieved once Argentina pays its debt for the purchase of natural gas.

The minister stated that the government's current goals are to curb inflation, reactivate the productive apparatus, obtain financial backing to stabilize the economy at a reasonable level, and conclude the negotiations with the IMF.

COB REQUESTS URGENT MEETING WITH PRESIDENT

PY141627 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] suggests the need for an urgent meeting with President Hernan Siles Zuazo in order to request that the government fulfill its agreements with the COB. Oscar Sanjines, a COB leader made this statement after a meeting of the COB Executive Board.

On this occasion, the COB analyzed the problems affecting the working class, such as the lack of staples. Sanjines believes that it is very important that the president meet with the COB before the government announces its economic reorganization program.

COMMUNIST PARTY PROPOSES UDP REORGANIZATION

PY141900 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Senator Jorge Kolle Cueto, first secretary of the Bolivian Communist Party [PCP], stated during a press conference that if the Democratic and Popular Unity [UDP] does not find a solution to the crisis that the country is enduring, the PCB would have no need to support any other proposals.

The PCB proposes the reorganization of the UDP political apparatus. Moreover, the PCB proposes a political agreement that will include other political movements such as the PRIN [Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left], the PS-1 [Socialist Party-One], the bloc of independent congressmen [as heard], and the MITKA [Tupac Katari Indian Movement].

[Begin Kolle recording] The plenum of the executive board has verified the worsening of the economic crisis, especially regarding inflation, the shortage of staples, and the lack of short-term solutions to the other undeniable problems.

The deterioration of the crisis directly threatens the continuity of the democratic process and the government's stability.

The plenum has learned the contents of the emergency program, which it believes is in keeping with the general contents and prospects of the UDP's programmatic guidelines. Thus, it has proposed an analysis of some proposals that will allow the more effective tackling of the causes and effects of the crisis, always bearing in mind that the program must be in keeping with the UDP and government's general, popular, and patriotic guidelines.

It has also reasserted the need for the peoples' support of the program, since the implementation of the set goals will not be possible without this support.

In referring to the political plan, the plenum believes in the urgent need to reorganize and reactivate the UDP's political apparatus by advocating the support of Communist Party members in this urgent task.

Therefore, we reiterate that the PCB, respecting the president's constitutional prerogatives, will carry out all the necessary actions to organize a UDP structure, which will be formed, basically, by the original members of the UDP. Our proposal for a UDP solution to the crisis also includes the establishment of a political agreement which may also include the incorporation into the government of other political and social forces such as the MITKA, the PRIN, the PS-1, and the bloc of independent congressmen.

The Central Committee has also ratified the decisions made during the plenary meetings held during the past few months and once again has proclaimed that the PCB is a united party that maintains the same position as the masses, the government, and the Congress and in all fields wherein its members are struggling. [end recording]

## SOVIET UNION SEEKING TO INCREASE STEEL PURCHASES

PY150000 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Mar 84 p 11

[Excerpts] According to information Ambassador Vladimir Chernyshev provided to FOLHA yesterday, the Soviet Union wants to trip purchases of Brazilian steel. He has revealed the intentions of his government to Brazilian economic authorities, who are trying to diversify the foreign market for Brazilian steel to overcome the difficulties recently raised by our main buyer, the United States. The Soviet Union currently buys from 25,000 to 30,000 tons of Brazilian steel. Should Soviet purchases expand to 90,000 tons, Brazil stands to earn approximately $70 million, based on the average price of $750 per ton for steel products in 1983.

The Soviet ambassador also said that his country is willing to buy more steel from Brazil in the future if Brazilian purchases of Soviet products increase. This would be in addition to the initial intention of raising the Soviet purchases threefold. Ambassador Chernyshev does not believe that an even trade balance between the two countries is all that important, but he considers that a measure of commercial reciprocity is necessary.

At present Brazil buys oil, chemical fertilizers, and metalworking machinery from the Soviet Union. The value of bilateral trade in 1983 was $900 million: The Soviets imported $300 million and the Brazilians bought $600 million.

## GENERAL: SATELLITE LAUNCH POSSIBLE IN NEAR FUTURE

PY141206 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] On visiting the Aerospace Technology Center in Sao Jose dos Campos, General Waldirde Vasconcelos, chief of staff of the Armed Forces, stated that Brazil will be able to launch its own satellite within the next few years with 90 percent national technology. The space program will be entirely national, and no consortiums with neighboring countries will be formed.

## BRIEFS

OIL AGREEMENT WITH NIGERIA -- An agreement has been signed in which Brazil will purchase crude oil from Nigeria and sell back to that country gasoline, diesel oil, and aviation grade kerosene equivalent to as much as 110,000 barrels of oil per day. The corresponding bank accounts will be cleared every month, and the operations may yield $1.8 billion per year. Brazil now has refining capacity for 1.3 million barrels per day and consumes only 950,000 barrels per day. [Summary] [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 Mar 84 p 1 PY]

TRADE SURPLUS WITH EEC -- Rio de Janeiro, 9 Mar (AFP) -- The CACEX [Foreign Trade Department] today reported that in 1983 Brazil had a surplus of $3,846,498 000 in its trade with EEC member countries. Brazilian exports to EEC countries totaled $5,688,258,000, and Brazilian imports from EEC countries totaled $1,841,760,000. [Excerpt] [Paris AFP in Spanish 1022 GMT 9 Mar 84 PY]

IRAQI JUMBO 747 ARRIVES TO TAKE ON ARMS

PY141444 Paris AFP in Spanish 1355 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 14 Mar (AFP) -- Reliable sources today reported that an Iraqi military plane has landed in Santiago to take on board a shipment of arms made in Chile. The plane, a Jumbo 747, arrived Tuesday afternoon and is scheduled to depart from Marino Benitez International Airport today.

The arms to be loaded include a shipment of cluster bombs manufactured by the local firm CARDOEN. According to sources of this firm, these cluster bombs can be used by conventional bombers or jet fighter planes. A few seconds after being launched, the Chilean cluster bombs open up to release 240 explosive devices capable of covering an area of 50,000 square meters.

CARDOEN spokesmen have not specified the quantity of bombs or the amount of money involved in the operation, but they have indicated that the company was awarded the contract in a recent tender because it underbid U.S. and European suppliers.

PDC BLASTS PINOCHET AMENDMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

PY142120 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] In a statement referring to the president's recent speech, the Christian Democratic Party states that the government cannot continue to widen the gap among Chileans by employing subterfuge to avoid the prompt return of a true democracy.

The statement, which also refers to statements issued by the defense minister and the interior minister, was released by Christian Democratic Party President Gabriel Valdes.

[Begin Valdes recording] The government has decided to confront the general repudiation of its administration by avoiding to adopt a truly democratic path.

The only objective of the announced constitutional amendment on the holding of plebiscites is to increase the president's powers. Moreover, it does not meet any of the conditions that all plebiscites must fulfill if they are to be valid.

As is well known, the two previous plebiscites, like all those held by regimes of this kind, are completely illegal. [end recording]

MERINO REJECTS CARVAJAL DEMOCRATIZATION PROPOSAL

PY150230 Paris AFP in Spanish 2239 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Santiago, 14 Mar (AFP) -- Chilean Junta member Admiral Jose Toribio Merino today dismissed a recent political proposal made by the defense minister in the name of the Armed Forces.

Defense Minister Vice Admiral Patricio Carvajal, retired, has urged supporters of the military regime to join a democratic federation in order to gradually set up the bases of the new institutional system that must be in force in Chile when the time comes, after 1989, for power to be turned over to civilians.

Carvajal made this proposal last Sunday in an unexpected speech he delivered at the Maipu Catholic Church in the western part of Santiago. In a press conference he held later, Carvajal reaffirmed his proposal and stated that his viewpoints reflect the opinion not only of the Armed Forces but of most Chileans.

Yet Admiral Merino, who is a member of the Government Military Junta in his capacity as commander in chief of the Navy, today voiced his opposition to this proposal.

Merino said: The defense minister is no longer a Navy man. He is retired. Thus, whatever he said about political federations or parties is just his opinion, nothing else.

Merino added that all Navy personnel, with the single exception of the commander in chief, refrain from engaging in political activities.

ARREST ORDERED OF TWO REFUGEES IN NUNCIATURE

PY141418 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The military prosecutor's office has issued warrants for the arrest of two of the four individuals who have taken refuge at the nunciature. They are Jose Hector Aguilera Suazo and Pamela del Carmen Cordero.

The military prosecutor's office has discovered that the two individuals directly participated in the murder of Carabineros officer Manuel Valenzuela. The officer was posted in front of a Carabineros station along Herrera Street in Santiago when he was killed at point-blank range by a group of subversives who then escaped. It is reported that the arrest of the two individuals will be requested through the Foreign Ministry.

COSTA RICA REQUESTS SAFE-CONDUCT FOR REFUGEE

PY141630 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The Costa Rican Government has requested the granting of a safe-conduct for a renowned Marxist activist who has entered the residence of a Costa Rican Embassy official in Santiago. The refugee is Cecilia Suarez, the daughter of a former minister in the so-called Popular Unity administration. The request was made by Costa Rican Ambassador Favio Cruz to Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle at the Foreign Ministry. At the end of the meeting, the Costa Rican ambassador quoted the foreign minister as stating that the situation would be studied and that a reply could be forthcoming in the next few days.

The Costa Rican diplomat said that marxist activist Cecilia Suarez is still staying at the resident of an embassy official. The diplomat did not specify when he would return to the Foreign Ministry for another meeting with Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle on the matter.

For his part, Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle has stated that the situation surrounding the refugee at the Costa Rican Embassy is totally different from that of the four refugees at the nunciature. Del Valle made it clear that Cecilia Suarez requested permission to enter the Costa Rican diplomatic mission, while the four extremists forced their way into the Holy See's mission in Santiago with weapons.

Jaime del Valle concluded by stating that during the meeting with Favio Cruz he did not set any specific date for the government's reply, but that he told Cruz that he would study Cecilia Suarez' case.

RADICAL LEADER REJECTS ALLIANCE WITH COMMUNISTS

PY141445 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Radical Party leader Enrique Silva Cimma has stated that the Radicals will not ally with the Communist Party. The leader said that no alliance agreement will be signed with the Communist Party, simply because the Radical Party's views on democracy are different from those of the Communists.

Silva Cimma said that some radicals living abroad have criticized the party's position, but added that their criticism has received very little support in Chile. He said that Radicals are against the insurrectional stand taken by the Communist Party, adding that his followers reject terrorist activities and actions.

Silva Cimma also reported the existence of an intensive, sly, and [word indistinct] biased campaign against the Radical Party leadership. He said that the campaign consists of documents [words indistinct], all of which have been largely publicized by the press. Silva Cimma added that it is an irresponsible campaign pursuing sinister purposes.

DEMONSTRATORS, POLICE CLASH; 63 ARRESTED

PY141610 Paris AFP in Spanish 0348 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Punta Arenas, 13 Mar (AFP) -- The Chilean police tonight arrested 63 persons after clashing with several hundred people demonstrating against the military government. The militarized Carabineros police used tear gas bombs and truncheons to break up an opposition demonstration staged to demand the freedom of Jose Ruiz di Giorgio, president of the oil workers union. The demonstration was publicly announced on Saturday after a town meeting which had the support of the Punta Arenas multiunion workers command and youth and neighborhood organizations.

OPPOSITION GROUPS MEET, PLAN 27 MARCH PROTEST

PY142055 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Members of the Democratic Alliance [AD], the People's Democratic Movement [MDP], the Socialist Bloc, and the National Workers Command [CNT] today adopted a final agreement on the forthcoming national day of protest. It has been decided that the 8th national day of protest will be held on 27 March. It is reported that details about the holding of the national day of protest will be issued on Friday.

COURT CONFIRMS SEGUEL DISQUALIFICATION FROM POST

PY141340 Paris AFP in Spanish 1555 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 13 Mar (AFP) -- A court in Rancagua, south of Santiago, today declared legal the disqualification of Chilean labor leader Rodolfo Seguel, president of the powerful copper mineworkers union, who several times called for national protests against the military regime of President Augusto Pinochet.

The disqualification, confirmed by the judge, was imposed by the administration of El Teniente Mine, near the city of Rancagua, after a strike was called by Seguel's union board in June 1983.

## INTENSE GUERRILLA-ARMY ACTIVITY IN CAQUETA

### Army, M-19 Clash in Florencia

PA141625 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1610 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Florencia, Colombia, 14 Mar (EFE) — A large group of 19 April Movement (M-19) guerrillas today launched a surprise attack on downtown Florencia.

According to initial reports, the M-19 guerrillas are engaged in fierce clashes with the Army and police in downtown Florencia. The city of Florencia has a population of 45,000. During the attack, the rebels freed more than 100 prisoners from the local jail. So far, 2 prison guards and 2 passersby have been killed, and 10 others have been wounded in the fighting.

### Curfew Imposed

PA141755 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Florencia, Caqueta -- Acting Governor Efrain Ramirez has announced that the situation in this city has been brought under complete control after more than 100 guerrillas attacked the municipal jail, killing 2 guards and releasing 158 of the 186 prisoners. According to the official, eight guerrillas were killed by the Army and police, who repelled the attack.

According to Governor Ramirez Cerrera, there is no full report available on the developments. He indicated that the only thing that is known is that three civilians and several policemen were wounded.

A curfew has been decreed and the local people have been ordered to stay indoors, to facilitate the authorities' work. The curfew will remain in effect until further notice.

Six guerrillas, apparently members of the self-styled M-19 [19 April Movement], escaped via the road leading from Florencia to (?Neiva).

According to the governor, the situation has been brought under complete control. The fighting between the Army and the subversives, which began at 0930, lasted about 1 and 1/2 hours.

### Rebels Killed; Prisoners Freed

PA150035 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] Florencia, Caqueta -- The Defense Ministry has confirmed that 20 guerrillas, including 1 woman, were killed during a surprise attack by a large M-19 [19 April Movement] column.

The official communique released this afternoon states that 20 guerrillas were killed during the fierce clashes between rebels and Army troops on the streets of Florencia, the capital of Caqueta Department, during the rebel attack.

The communique adds that the rebels freed 125 prisoners from the local jail during the attack, which lasted approximately 1 and 1/2 hours. The guerrilla column later retreated into a mountainous area.

## State of Siege Requested

PA150105 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] Bogota -- The Colombian Government this afternoon asked the State Council for authorization to declare a state of siege in two southern provinces in response to an attack in which 20 guerrillas were killed, it was officially reported.

Government Minister Alfonso Gomez and Defense Minister General Gustavo Matamoros made the request to the State Council after a meeting with President Belisario Betancur. The State Council should announce its decision within the next few hours, after which the Cabinet will hold an emergency meeting.

Between 100 and 300 members of the communist pro-Soviet Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, and of the extreme left-wing nationalist 19 April Movement, M-19, today attacked the city of Florencia, Caqueta, located approximately 500 km from Bogota. A curfew has been established, and the region has been militarized as a result of the attack. The state of siege will encompass Caqueta and Huila Departments.

There was also a rebel attack against a police post in (El Doncello), in Huila, last Wednesday. It caused no casualties.

## State of Siege Declared

PA150137 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Government communique issued at Narino Palace on 14 March; read by Government Minister Alfonso Gomez Gomez -- live]

[Text] In view of the growing criminal activities of the drug traffickers, a subject on which the press has broadly reported, and in view of serious incidents, such as those that occurred today in Florencia, Caqueta Department, the government, after consulting with the State Council, unanimously agreed, in accordance with Article 121 of the Constitution, to adopt the necessary and immediate measure of decreeing a state of siege in the departments where the main roots of the problem are located: Caqueta, Cauca, Huila, and Meta.

With strict respect for the democratic spirit of the Colombian people and the judicial institutions that guide it, the government will enforce this measure only as long as necessary, in order to end the trouble and to establish safeguards for the rights of the people as included in Article 121 of the Constitution. The measures will be applied only in justifiable cases, taking inalienable human rights into account. In view of these two situations and the dangerous [word indistinct] the government reaffirms its decision and its commitment to guarantee and stabilize peace, [words indistinct] extraordinary measures and a battle against the drug traffickers. In the case of those fighting it will continue following a path toward peace, based on the fact that it is indispensable to have interlocutors [words indistinct].

For the benefit of the areas affected by the violence, the work of the rehabilitation plan will continue. It is a living hope for the people of those areas and reaffirms the presence of the state through its legal authorities. We respect the principle that society must always be protected by the government, without any arrogance that must not be confused with weakness, naivete, or [passage indistinct]. The government will issue the corresponding decree.

## Army Issues Status Report

PA150116 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0019 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Report from Army Headquarters]

[Text] Bogota -- Army Commander Major General Rafael Solero Moreno has announced that today one of the harshest blows yet was dealt to the subversives in the country when 20 guerrillas were killed when they attacked the capital of Caqueta Department.

In the almost 2-hour clash, 11 soldiers were killed: 2 from the FAC [Colombian Air Force], 4 Army soldiers, and 5 policemen, including a sergeant. A guard from the local jail, identified as Miguel Tique, was also killed, and Jesus Torres, another guard on duty, was wounded.

The following military personnel were wounded: Technical Sergeant Cesar Morales Alfonso of the FAC; Technical Sergeant First Class Orlando Ortega, also of the FAC; Private Vicente Gomez Cardenas; Private Henry Diaz Flores; Private Nelson Cortes Oliveros; Private Ricardo Martinez Romero; and a sergeant and four policemen whose names are not given in the single press release issued by the commander of the Army.

The official report indicates that in Florencia, there were simultaneous attacks on three places. The first was directed at banks, the second at a police station in the city, and, a third some 80 km away, where another combined column of the M-19 [19 April Movement] and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] attempted to completely destroy a police garrison in the municipality of Caqueta.

This violent surprise move by the rebels against the government forced the Caqueta authorities to declare a curfew in the city of Florencia. The curfew will be lifted at 0600 tomorrow. At this time, Operational Command No 2 of Caqueta has reported that it is in complete control of the situation and that public order is gradually being restored. Meanwhile, as of 1800, military units are continuing their air and ground pursuit of the M-19 and FARC guerrillas.

## ARMY OPERATION FINDS GUERRILLA, DRUG CONNECTION

PA141958 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Bogota -- The Colombian Army today staged an operation to eliminate several groups of drug traffickers in the jungles of Caqueta Department, the Defense Ministry reported.

The operation, in which about 700 soldiers participated, is part of a larger operation that was initiated on Saturday in the jungles of the Yari River, where soldiers discovered a sophisticated laboratory and arrested 38 people. Meanwhile, 80 rebels and drug traffickers have been surrounded near the border between Meta and Caqueta Departments.

Defense Minister General Gustavo Matamoros D'Acosta indicated in the last few hours that additional cocaine-processing laboratories are expected to fall into the hands of the government forces shortly. Almost simultaneously, it was reported that three new processing centers had been found. Matamoros added that it has been confirmed that there are links between FARC guerrillas and the drug traffickers.

It has also been reported that about 120 men, who managed to escape an Army operation last Saturday, are now resisting the Army, which together with the police discovered a sophisticated cocaine laboratory. The army seized 5 planes, 3 helicopters, 15 cars, and 1,700 kg of pure cocaine, worth an estimated 5 billion pesos.

So far, no information on the number of casualties has been released, but it has been reported that several clashes have taken place today between 500 soldiers, transported from various places, and the drug traffickers operating with the guerrillas. The soldiers were mobilized to support the narcotics police. This has been the hardest blow ever dealt to the drug traffic.

## ULLOA SUPPORTS ALVA ORLANDINI FOR PRIME MINISTER

PY141643 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Senator Manuel Ulloa has said that the economic situation will probably improve this year, but that the political situation will be difficult. He has also said that Javier Alva Orlandini is the best qualified candidate to take the place of Prime Minister Fernando Schwalb, should the latter resign.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Do you foresee a difficult year?

[Ulloa] I do not believe that it will be as difficult as last year, but perhaps not as easy as it could be, considering it is a political year.

[Reporter] What are your reasons for saying this?

[Ulloa] Well, everyone becomes more sensitive to political issues, and this could be a good thing, but it could also pose some problems, because I believe that economic management, economic decisions, should be free from political connotations, since it is a very sensitive field which greatly affects the lives of all Peruvians and, therefore, should not be toyed with.

[Reporter] There are rumors that Javier Alva Orlandini could head the new cabinet. Since you have been a minister in the cabinet, do you feel that Alva Orlandini could give Popular Action a new slant, that he could -- although President Belaunde's term in office is almost over -- set a new course for Popular Action?

[Ulloa] Look, I am sure that any Popular Action member will agree with me that Alva Orlandini is not only perfectly capable of performing as a minister -- in fact, he has been a minister -- but also of heading the cabinet or holding any public position. Furthermore, after the defeat that Popular Action experienced in the municipal elections, I proposed Alva Orlandini at a party meeting for economic minister. If Schwalb were to resign for some reason, or if President Belaunde decided to reshuffle the cabinet, Alva Orlandini is certainly qualified to replace Schwalb. [end recording]

## AIRPORT WORKERS LAUNCH INDEFINITE STRIKE

PY141615 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Some 3,000 workers of the Corporation for Airports and Commercial Aviation [CORPAC] today launched an indefinite strike, demanding salary hikes. The strike affects 32 airports throughout the country and grounded 6 domestic flights of the AEROPERU company. High-ranking technical personnel and Air Force personnel are maintaining key services at the international airport.

## FLOODING KILLS 49, CAUSES EXTENSIVE DAMAGE

PY141855 Paris AFP in Spanish 1815 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Lima, 13 Mar (AFP) -- A total of 49 people have died over the past 48 hours in various incidents caused by the torrential rains that are lashing a large part of Peru. The rains have already caused damage totaling 11 million soles ($4.4 million) to roads alone.

## FIDEL VELASQUEZ ON UNIONS BUYING COMPANY SHARES

FL132100 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1431 GMT 13 Mar 84

[By Edmundo Dominguez Aragones]

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 13 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- In view of the government's decision to sell, to the public and private sectors, the 450 companies that had been either partially or entirely owned by the banks and turned over to the state when the banks were nationalized, Fidel Velasquez, secretary general of the Confederation of Mexican Workers [CTM], announced a few days ago that the union sector has promised to buy shares in these companies in partnership with the government. Velasquez said that as long as the workers do not turn into capitalists -- thus enlarging the private sector -- they can participate in this activity.

Fidel Velasquez made this statement in line with the destiny and future of the working class and without undermining the labor union's right to prosper in the administration of cooperatives and worker-managed companies, as it has been doing in various enterprises and in the Workers Bank.

The government's decision -- because it is the government's responsibility to administrate the nation's assets -- was received favorably by the private sector as evidence of the institutional strengths of freedom and a mixed economy which characterize our society.

With this decision, the private sector will be able to share commercial property with the government. The property listings were published in Mexico's newspapers last week.

## FOREIGN SECRETARY SEPULVEDA VISITS FRG

For West German reportage on Secretary of Foreign Relations Bernardo Sepulveda Amor's 2-day visit to the FRG, including his talks with FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Economic Cooperation Minister Juergen Warnke on economic cooperation and Central America, see the Federal Republic of Germany section of the 14 March Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

## BRIEFS

WORKERS PARTY ELECTS OFFICIALS -- The Mexican Workers Party [PMT] held its state assembly for Mexico State last Sunday. Three officials were elected to direct the party during the next 3 years. They are: Jose Luis Diaz Moll, president; Rutilio Montero, secretary of organization; and Rogelio Gallegos Calderon, secretary of finances. [Text] [Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 28 Feb 84 p 4 PA]

HEALTH AGREEMENT WITH GUATEMALA -- Guatemala and Mexico yesterday signed a health cooperation agreement during a special ceremony at Tapachula, Chiapas State. The document was signed by Dr Jorge Ramiro Rivera Alvarez, the Guatemalan minister of public health and social welfare, and Dr Guillermo Soberon Acevedo, the Mexican secretary of health and public assistance. [Summary] [Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Mar 84 PA]

PNP APPEALS FOR NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

PA150003 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Mar 84 p 5-8

["Advertisement to the People of Panama" by Olimpo Saez M., president of the Popular Nationalist Party, PNP; date and place not given -- uppercase passages published in boldface]

[Text] WARNING TO THE PANAMANIAN PEOPLE

THIS WARNING TO THE PUBLIC OF THE DANGER OF THE ELECTORAL EXTREMES TO WHICH THE PANAMANIAN PEOPLE ARE BEING DRAWN WAS WIDELY DISTRIBUTED TO THE NEWS MEDIA ON 28 FEBRUARY, BUT IT DID NOT RECEIVE THE PROPER DISSEMINATION. IT IS BEING PUBLISHED AGAIN BECAUSE WE CANNOT AFFORD TO HAVE A THOUGHTLESS VOTE FOR REVENGE OR FOR CONTINUISM [continuismo].

Since the POPULAR NATIONALIST PARTY became a legal political party in September 1982, it submitted to the nation the fundamental need to have a NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, with the participation of ALL the social, economic, and political forces of Panama, excluding none, in order to reach an agreement to solve the general crisis the Republic has been facing since 1978. The Party said that the only feasible way to overcome the disintegration and conflicts that seriously threatened the Panamanian people was through a NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING.

The majority of the political parties that had already registered or were in the process of registering between 1982 and 1983 made a halfhearted attempt toward the NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING that the POPULAR NATIONALIST PARTY had proposed when they supported the constitutional amendments approved in April 1983. Afterwards, however, they all returned to their factional groups and to the tasks of securing guarantees for those groups' interests, neglecting the main problems that are affecting the future of the country.

This gloomy situation forced the POPULAR NATIONALIST PARTY to assume a political stance in opposition to the extremes which were beginning to lead the country to the traditional GOVERNMENT-OPPOSITION dichotomy. In December the party nominated General Ruben Dario Paredes as its presidential candidate. Parades, a public figure, demonstrated during the year he was National Guard commander his firm conviction to propose amendments, to provide effective support to the democratic reforms to the Torrijist Constitution, and to give a well-balanced weight to the nation's problems. The following are the objectives of that candidacy, termed the "Third Force":

In this crucial hour of Panamanian politics, the concerns of the POPULAR NATIONALIST PARTY are becoming greater. On the one hand, there is a vengeful and vindictive OPPOSITION which does not realize that it is asking for another military coup d'etat, and which has also paradoxically promoted civilian government officials who have yet to show their faces; and on the other hand, a worn-out and broken GOVERNMENT trying desperately to stay in power, demonstrating that it will stop at nothing to achieve its objective.

After careful thought, the POPULAR NATIONALIST PARTY considers now the right time to reiterate its proposal for a NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, but this time as a final appeal to all political parties, to the National Guard (so-called Defense Forces), to the Government, to the Panamanian peoples, and to the youth of our country.

The political parties must abandon the idea of dividing the bureaucratic positions and circles of economic influence in a feast in which the Republic is dismembered.

The National Defense Forces chiefs should stop playing the dangerous game of political roulette, because after the elections we all have to face the nation's serious problems.

The Panamanian people should strengthen their community conscience to choose the best candidates, who will run the next government for all citizens and not take advantage of their positions in the government.

THE YOUTH OF PANAMA, as part of the people, cannot align themselves with those who have given eloquent proof in their political life of their long-standing incapacity to govern, because if one of these suicidal extremes wins the elections, the [Panamanian] youth will inherit hatred, social conflicts, and national disaster.

Still, the clock of time is giving us this last opportunity, and the POPULAR NATIONALIST PARTY believes that very soon we will choose between intelligently saving ourselves through a spirit of sacrifice, or going down, individually, in anarchy and sectarian revenge.

To the Panamanian people, to the youth: We do not need a thoughtless vote for revenge or for continuism. WE NEED A VOTE TO SAVE THE COUNTRY.

ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES SRV DELEGATION

OW142216 Hanoi VNA in English 1538 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 14 -- Panama's Acting Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera has reiterated the Panamanian Government and people's solidarity with and support for the Vietnamese Government's correct stance in solving outstanding questions in Southeast Asia through dialogue. The minister was receiving Hoang Luong, head of the Vietnamese delegation which made a stop-over in Panama City on March 12 on its way to attend the third congress of the Dominican Communist Party.

KIDNAPPED BUSINESSMAN REPORTEDLY FOUND DEAD

PA141844 Panama City Radio Mia Network in Spanish 1347 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Julito Ortega report -- monitored in progress]

[Text] We called DENI [National Department of Investigations], but the officials who answer the telephone claim that they don't know anything. However, we have received reports that the lifeless body of Mr Sam Kardonsky [Panamanian businessman kidnapped on 11 March] has been found in a house near Chagres in one of the canal areas that have reverted to Panama. His body contained three bullet wounds. Three men have been arrested, but it has not been confirmed that they are the murderers. They are being investigated.

The strange thing about this is that everybody knows already. Our sources are calling us to tell us what happened and yet at the DENI, they claim that officially they don't know anything.

## COSTA RICA

### POPULAR VANGUARD PARTY REPORTS ON CONGRESS

PA141546 San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish 2-8 Mar 84 p 7

[Report by the Costa Rican Popular Vanguard Party: "Resolution of the San Jose Assembly" -- no date given]

[Excerpts] Revolutionary Unity and Foresight Against Slander

Following a lively and complex debate on the document presented by Companero Manuel Mora for the consideration of the party's 14th congress, along with a debate on other material presented by the regional directorate, the party's assembly in San Jose unanimously approved this resolution.

The Causes of a Conspiracy

The resolution states that it is now clear that the removal of Companero Manuel Mora from the party's General Secretariat was a maneuver intended to alter the political policy approved at the 13th congress and to permit a takeover of leadership positions throughout the party's organizations.

The Disagreement

After investigating the causes of the crisis that erupted at the very moment of the imperialists' invasion of Grenada, the communists of San Jose came to the conclusion that the CIA, as it has done and is currently doing with other parties in the region, had a hand in the crisis that erupted in our party.

Violations of Internal Democracy

Another important conclusion noted in the resolution is that the party's "democratic centralism has been violated for years now by the actions of a group of conspirators. In truth, the Central Committee and the Political Commission delegated responsibilities to ancillary commissions that were controlled by that group, particularly the party's national organization commission. As a result, a system involving orders and commands, arrogance and self-sufficiency was imposed as a set of working principles, reducing democracy within the party and promoting the spread of bureaucratic working methods. Thus, covert activities, based on gossip and slander, spread like a cancer."

Slander Must Be Stopped

The communists of San Jose warn that a slander campaign against the party and its leaders, especially against Companero Manuel Mora Valverde, has increased in recent weeks. It is said that these are the weapons that are always used by national and imperialist reactionary sectors.

The resolution rejects this low and vile campaign and calls on all party activists to stop it with dignity and truth, "so that hate, gossip, and slander never again infiltrate this party."

A Shining Future

The final part of the resolution issued by the communists in San Jose states that they pledge to carry out the people's struggle and tasks of solidarity with the Central American peoples, particularly with the Sandinist people's revolution.

After paying heartfelt homage to the party's heroes and martyrs, it confirms the commitment to a united, democratic, and patriotic struggle in defense of the working masses' rights and goals and of national sovereignty. The people's democratic solution to the crisis will clear the way for a democratic and anti-imperialist revolution, the resolution asserts.

It adds that the party will emerge from the crisis with new strength and energy, with a greater ability to understand the nation's reality, and with the capacity to lead the people in their struggle with firmness and flexibility and to apply creatively the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism to the specific historical conditions prevailing in Costa Rica and the region. Lastly, the communists declare that the 14th congress enjoyed active participation.

## EL SALVADOR

### PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES GIVE ECONOMIC PLATFORMS

PA142119 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 12 Mar 84 pp 1, 55

[Text] Most of the political parties were represented at a forum last week sponsored by the Salvadoran School of Economic Sciences. The purpose of the forum, held at the Presidente Hotel (San Salvador), was to learn the platforms of the various parties on the country's economic problems.

Dr Rene Fortin Magana [presidential candidate for the Democratic Action Party, AD] spoke of the need to abide by the current Constitution because in the past it has never been respected. He insisted that there must be a judicial branch and said that the government must be the coordinator of national activities.

Fortin Magana charged that the National Economic Reactivation Commission [Comision de Reactivacion Economica Nacional--CREM] has done nothing. "This commission was created during the so-called national unity government, but it has always been useless," he added. He added that the public and private sectors should be in harmony because both have responsibilities. He mentioned that not accepting private sector participation in the revolutionary government junta was a very big mistake. Fortin Magana said that he disagreed with international dependency because this causes national sovereignty to crumble.

The Opinion of the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party, PAISA

Colonel Roberto Escobar Garcia [PAISA presidential candidate] said that nationalization and state control are increasing inefficiency and corruption and added that these need strict controls and efficient reforms. Regarding coffee, Escobar Garcia said that he has his doubts regarding the methods used to fix the product's price. He recalled a bill pending at the Legislative Assembly involving 16 million colones in bonds to subsidize this product. He added that he plans to promote the production of cotton and basic foodstuffs and also plans to promote industry.

The Popular Orientation Party, POP

Gilberto Trujillo [POP presidential candidate] said that Salvadorans have been integrated into the political system but have not been made part of the country's development. On agrarian reform, he said that there is insufficient organization within the institution and that this could be resolved through agricultural expansion and by social workers who would teach organization, finance, and credit handling as well as marketing techniques.

The Words of the Christian Democratic Party, PDC

Rodolfo Castillo Claramount [PDC vice presidential candidate] described agrarian reform as an instrument of social renewal. On agricultural exports, he said that El Salvador as a state cannot decide on the quota and price for coffee, cotton, and sugarcane. He added that some of these products have contributed to the barrenness of our lands and offer few possibilities for employment. Castillo Claramount added that society is being exploited because the jobs being offered are very few and temporary. The agricultural export economy, therefore, produces frustration and unrest.

The Stable Centrist Republican Movement, MERECEN

Juan Ramon Rosales y Rosales [MERECEN presidential candidate] announced a 5-year tax exemption on imports of agricultural and livestock machinery. He mentioned mandatory education for peasants, the cancellation of all civil suits for overdue debts, the reimbursement of former land owners for their property, an end to slumlording [meson], and freedom for industry and trade to end corruption.

## NETHERLANDS TO SEND OBSERVERS TO ELECTIONS

FL141655 Hilversum International Service in English 1000 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The Netherlands has appointed two representatives who will function as observers of the elections in El Salvador on March 25th. At the end of last month, the Dutch Government decided to send its own observers after the ten members of the EC had failed to agree on a joint delegation. There was some discussion as to whether the act of sending observers to the elections in El Salvador can be seen as recognition of the regime, but Netherland's Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek has stressed that the appointment of two observers is not in itself a statement about the democratic nature and fairness of the elections. He added that no judgment can be made until the two observers have drawn up their report.

## DEMOCRATIC ACTION PARTY SUPPORTS FREE UNIONS

PA142209 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 12 Mar 84 p 42

[Communique released by the Democratic Action Party, AD; date and place not given]

[Text] The AD fully identifies with the free unions in El Salvador, because our members who are peasants and workers belong to these unions, and expresses its solidarity with the union organizations that clearly and honestly represent the defense of their sector's real interests and the satisfaction of the people's needs by remaining independent of any particular "social pact."

The AD, echoing the just demands of the free unions in El Salvador, recognizes in the existence of free, democratic, and independent unions the improvement of union activities, which must not be limited to the struggle for improved wages.

The AD reiterates its firm decision to support the free Salvadoran unions, especially as it expresses its concern for the strengthening of labor and management relations based on mutual respect and the recognition of the enormous tasks that both workers and employers accomplish for our homeland's economic and social benefit, which must eventually lead to peaceful coexistence based on social justice.

Finally, the AD notes the responsibility and intelligence of El Salvador's free unions by their brave rejection of all attempts at the political manipulation that tries to soil and to waste the people's votes prior to the elections, transferring those votes to corrupt, demagogical, or violent parties and that is disrespectful of the people's will.

The AD will always support free unions in a genuine democracy.

Vote honestly; better days will arrive.

## PCN USULUTAN DEPUTY REPORTED SHOT TO DEATH

PA150100 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 2355 GMT 15 Mar 84

[Text] Hector Julio Flores, deputy of the PCN [National Conciliation Party], was shot to death at approximately 1730. We repeat, this afternoon, at approximately 1730, armed men killed Hector Julio Flores, the PCN representative for Usulutan Department. The heavily armed men intercepted him a block away from the [name indistinct] court. Hector Julio Flores was taken, still alive, to the Salvadoran Red Cross clinic at the Government Center. He was then quickly taken to the Salvadoran Hospital, where a few minutes ago he died from bullet wounds, according to the information received just now.

## ARMY REPORTS OPERATIONS, CLASHES, CASUALTIES

PA150207 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Salvadoran Armed Forces sources have told newsmen that a total of 54 casualties for the Army and guerrilla groups is the partial result of the recent combat in the Army's operation in the northern sector of San Miguel Department. The operation, in which some 2,000 soldiers are participating, began last Saturday. The 54 casualties include 35 for the Army with 5 deaths and 19 deaths for the guerrilla groups, which have their camps in northern San Miguel Department. There is no information about guerrilla wounded.

According to the information supplied to Radio Cadena YSU, the main clashes took place on Miracapa Hill, some 169 km northeast of San Salvador, where the Salvadoran Army has installed a temporary operation center. The combat included A-37 and O-2 Air Force planes, which bombed and strafed the leftist positions. The clash in Miracapa Hill lasted for approximately 4 hours. A helicopter was damaged near the hill when it came in to move the Army's wounded.

Military sources have reported that another clash took place at (El Reten), 15 km southwest of Miracapa Hill. The sources added that two soldiers were killed and 10 others were wounded. They were members of the (Ponce Battalion). The operation included members of the Cuscatlan and Atlacatl Battalions, which also reported 2 dead and 10 wounded.

Colonel Domingo Monterrosa, commander of the 3d Infantry Brigade and chief of operations in that sector of the country, said the military operation seeks to disrupt or to prevent large concentrations of leftist rebels, thus preventing attacks on production centers and ensuring that the upcoming presidential elections take place.

Members of the 1st Infantry Brigade -- the San Carlos Barracks -- last night combed the northern area of San Salvador Department, looking for rebels. The activity covered the cantons of Las Delicias, El Jicaron, and (Perical), jurisdiction of El Paisnal. No information has been given on this activity.

UNGO ON REBEL PROPOSALS FOR NEW GOVERNMENT

PA142046 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 14 Mar 84

["Part two" of an interview granted by FDR President Dr Guillermo Manuel Ungo to an unidentified Radio Venceremos reporter; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] We begin this second part of the interview granted by Dr Ungo by asking him about the popular demands for a government of broad participation that the FMLN and the FDR made recently in Mexico City:

[Ungo] In answer to this first question on the popular demands included in our recent proposal, I would like to tell the Salvadoran people that it is becoming increasingly evident that of the millions of dollars that the Reagan administration is sending, the lion's share goes to the powerful oligarchic sectors, while the people only get crumbs. Thus our interest in a program of a government of broad participation.

First of all, we intend to establish a moratorium on all debts of small- and medium-size businessmen, who do not benefit from the current oligarchic structure. Second, in order to reduce the effects of the current situation of hunger, poverty, and exploitation among the popular classes, we advocate price controls for the basic products consumed by the people, to improve the workers' real wages. In this connection, we regard the people's organizations as an important sector that can watch over these price controls.

Third, we think that it is high time to launch a mass literacy campaign and to implement a democratic program for the training of adults in health, education, agriculture, and community organization. We believe, however, that only a people's government of broad participation can do this. We also deem it necessary and urgent to develop a broad program of mass employment through the promotion of private and government investments in those areas that can promote the intensive recovery of the economy. We are turning things around so that the less-favored sectors, the popular classes, may receive most of the economic and social benefits derived from national production.

In our proposal we also call for the promotion and development of a program of popular organization through the expansion and consolidation of the municipal, communal, and local organizations so that by participating in these structures, and in the planning, execution, and evaluation of the projects carried out in behalf of the community, the people themselves can determine their own destinies.

[Reporter] Dr Ungo, for which sectors has this government of broad participation been proposed?

[Ungo] The government of broad participation seeks to involve all the political and social sectors truly intent on achieveing peace and our national sovereignty and independence, which are currently being violated because we are increasingly dominated by the U.S. Government.

In this regard, we feel that the entire labor movement, the peasants, the teachers, the workers, the professional associations, the universities, the political parties, the private sector, the FMLN and FDR representatives, and the reorganized army should all be present. All of them would make up the various structures of the provisional government of broad participation. We would exclude only those economic, political, and military sectors connected with repression and with the death squads, that is, the members of ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance]. In other words, only the enemies of peace, those responsible for 52 years of exploitation and repression, and the enemies of dialogue and negotiation would be excluded from this government of broad participation, which would therefore include the best expressions of the political pluralism of all those political, social, and economic sectors that really want a national consensus leading to peace -- not the peace of the cemeteries, but peace marked by justice and freedom.

[Reporter] Dr Ungo, the platform of the provisional government of broad participation mentions a purgue of the Army. What does this mean?

[Ungo] That is a very important point, which concerns the repressive structure of the current power. It concerns the reorganization of the Army. With this we intend to safeguard the legitimate interests of the Salvadoran Army, of the officers who truly want peace with democracy and justice, who feel that they have been betrayed since the proclamation that they issued in October 1979. This reorganization of the Army implies a purge; trials would have to be held to investigate and to determine the responsibility of those soldiers and civilians involved in the genocide, in the political crimes, the tortures, the disappearances, and all the mass human rights violations. This reorganization also involves the elimination of the security corps and the death squads, which are responsibile for the killing of over 45,000 Salvadorans. Those security bodies would be turned into a civilian police force independent of the Interior Ministry. After these governmental armed forces are reorganized, they and their representatives will be incorporated into the provisional government's structures. The idea is to separate the rotten apples within the Army so that the Army can really serve the people's interests rather than [passage indistinct]. We would thus integrate this reorganized Army and the FMLN army into a single army. The idea is to preserve the Army's institutionality, placing it at the service of the people rather than at the service of the repressive bodies, so this Army can guarantee respect for human rights and serve as the basis for the support and maintenance of a government of broad participation that responds to the entire people's demands and interests.

[Reporter] Dr Ungo, what have been the international repercussions of the proposal for a government of broad participation?

[Ungo] I can assert that in various ways and in the various trips through Latin America and Europe -- most recently in Caracas, where we had the chance to be present with many Latin American presidents and with politicians from other parts of the world -- we have had the chance to see that our proposal has been received in a very positive way. In other words, it is becoming evident that we are the ones who really want peace, that the FMLN-FDR are making specific and real efforts to find a political resolution to the Salvadoran conflict. This enables international public opinion, the political forces, the political leaders, the Latin American, European, and Third World leaders to compare our position to that of the Salvadoran Government and the Reagan administration, which are opposed to any political resolution and are intent on leading our country to a prolongation, an intensification, and a regionalization of the war, which they themselves would be the first to regret.

In this regard, there have already been public expressions -- regrettably many of them are not known in our homeland -- from which one can appreciate the support and the positive welcome that our proposals have received from various political forces of different tendencies and from various governments that are also of different political persuasions. In other words, the international community has broadly welcomed our proposal.

## GUATEMALA

### MEJIA VICTORES ON CONTINGENCY PLANS, CONDECA

PA150251 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1852 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Report by Jose Bujanda]

[Text] Guatemala City, 14 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- There are no plans for an upcoming meeting of the Central American Defense Council, CONDECA, General Oscar Mejia Victores, Guatemala's head of state and president of CONDECA, said today. Gen Mejia Victores told ACAN-EFE that Guatemala has "contingency plans to cover the possibility of an escalation of the hostile tension in the area. He said that "those plans cannot be made public because they would lose their value, but they are based on the defense of Guatemalan interests."

Gen Mejia Victores' comments coincided with a campaign launched by Guatemalan rightist parties to make the military government change its position of open neutrality in the Central American conflict. Two rightist political leaders, Carlos Molina of the Authentic Nationalist Center [Centro Autentica Nacionalista], CAN, and Edgar Larraondo, vice president of the political council of the National Liberation Movement [Movimiento de Liberacion Nacional], MLN, told ACAN-EFE today that Guatemala cannot stay neutral in the event of a conflict.

"In 1969, Guatemala was neutral in the so-called Soccer War between El Salvador and Honduras. That was a mistake. If a war against Nicaragua were to erupt, Guatemala must definitely side against the Sandinists," Molina said. His party, in coalition with the MLN, hopes to win the upcoming July elections for the Constituent Assembly.

Gen Mejia Victores said that the Guatemalan Army is structured to face domestic problems and that a military invasion of Nicaragua will not resolve the region's problems.

Military sources close to the Guatemala City-based CONDECA -- whose president is also Guatemalan -- told ACAN-EFE that there is no problem between Guatemala and Nicaragua. "Relations with Nicaragua have been completely normal since the meeting between Mejia Victores and Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, last December," the military sources said.

Guatemalan-Honduran relations, however, have been going through a crisis since Belize's Prime Minister George Price visited Honduras in February.

The Guatemalan military is strongly opposed to CONDECA's entering into military action either against the Salvadoran guerrillas or in the event of an armed conflict between Honduras and Nicaragua, the sources said.

The so-called "Pegasus Plan" would fail if Guatemala's military government refused to participate, the military sources told ACAN-EFE. On 23 February in Managua, Nicaraguan Commander Julio Ramos, chief of intelligence of the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, exposed the "Pegasus Plan," by which CONDECA would invade Nicaragua with the support of U.S. forces.

BELGIANS TURN WOUNDED MAN OVER TO AUTHORITIES

PA141540 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1503 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Guatemala City, 14 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Belgian Embassy in this capital last night turned a man with gunshot wounds over to the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry; the man had taken refuge at the embassy for several hours to escape his pursuers.

Hernan Van Der Mecker, the embassy's charge d'affaires, today told ACAN-EFE that a man with several gunshot wounds climbed over the hedge around the embassy yesterday afternoon to escape from a group of armed men. "The pursuers asked us to hand the wounded man over. We told them to identify themselves, and since they did not do so we did not turn the man over to them," the charge d'affaires said.

Belgian Ambassador Pieter Maddens immediately contacted the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry, which sent an official to whom the wounded man was turned over after remaining at the embassy for several hours, Van Der Mecker said.

The charge d'affaires told ACAN-EFE that the wounded man at no time asked embassy officials for refuge or diplomatic asylum. "As soon as we realized he was wounded we called the embassy doctor to help him," Van Der Mecker said. The Belgian charge d'affaires added that all of his embassy's actions were based on humanitarian principles and that the injured man is now under the protection of the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry.

According to unconfirmed reports, the injured man might be Alvaro Rene Sosa, a 35-year-old union leader.

Van Der Mecker explained that the injured man was taken by Manuel Eduardo Rodriguez, a Guatemalan Foreign Ministry official, to a private hospital in this capital, where he underwent surgery today. "The man is now under heavy guard to prevent a kidnapping," the charge d'affaires explained.

The supposed union leader's armed pursuers, who were riding in two vehicles, also briefly kidnapped two women yesterday for unknown reasons. The women work at the Delno Construction Company near the Belgian Embassy.

On 12 March, 13 Guatemalan unions issued a manifesto accusing the government of kidnapping four unionists and destabilizing the unions.

URD COMMUNIQUE DENOUNCES 'MILITARY REPRESSION'

PA140359 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2208 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 13 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- The Democratic Revolutionary Union (URD) of Guatemala today demanded that the Guatemalan Government "respect all public liberties." The URD denounced the "present wave of repression of the military government headed by General Humberto Mejia Victores" and demanded "respect for human rights" in Guatemala.

In a communique released to the international press in Tegucigalpa today, signed by the URD foreign affairs secretariat, the organization said that "the kidnappings, murders, torture, and killing of Guatemalan citizens become more frequent and selective every day." The URD operates in Guatemala under Humberto Gonzalez Gamarra, leader of the dissident social democratic group United Revolutionary Front (FUR).

In the communique distributed in Tegucigalpa, the URD said "the repressive actions of the Army and police, either directly or through the death squads, are aimed at increasing terror among the people to prevent them from organizing, participating, and mobilizing politically." The communique added that "the government-promoted violence continues to hit the progressive sectors in particular."

In the first few weeks of this year the autonomous University of San Carlos, the Association of University Students, the Catholic Church's Episcopal Conference, the National Council for Trade Union Unity, and political groups denounced "the repressive character of the Guatemalan military dictatorship."

## HONDURAS

### PROGRESS REPORTED IN EL SALVADOR BORDER TALKS

PA150327 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Salvadoran Deputy Foreign Minister Alejandro Gomez Vides has reported substantial progress on border demarcation during the recent round of negotiations by the Honduran-Salvadorn Border Mixed Commission. The Salvadoran Government official said that nearly all the border demarcation tasks have been accomplished because of the attention that both countries have given to the problem. Gomez Vides added that the talks on the border demarcation, the most difficult aspect of the negotiations, will continue and that the negotiators are showing great tact in discussions of delicate issues. The Honduran representative meanwhile, said that talks will continue soon because both governments are interested in finding a resolution to the problem. On a report that Honduras will open an embassy in the Hague, the Honduran official said that this is a safeguard if the border problem has to be submitted to the international Court of Justice.

## NICARAGUA

### ORTEGA MESSAGE DISTRIBUTED AS UN DOCUMENT

PA141650 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The message from the Nicaraguan Government to the international community that Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega read yesterday has been distributed as an official UN Security Council document. This was announced in New York by Javier Chamorro Mora, Nicaragua's ambassador to the United Nations, who said that the representatives of the nonaligned countries at the UN Security Council expressed their desire to cooperate with the Government of National Reconstruction in avoiding war in Central America. Chamorro spoke to Radio Sandino's "Extra" newscast in an exclusive interview at the UN Building in New York:

[Begin Chamorro recording] We are distributing Commander Ortega's message from the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction as an official UN Security Council document.

Naturally, we feel that it will have a great impact, particularly now, when UN member countries are greatly concerned over the situation in Central America.

In a meeting with the representatives of some 30 UN member countries that are also members of the Nonaligned Movement, we had the opportunity to brief them on the message. We read the most relevant portions of it to them and stressed our government's concern over the situation in Central America, as well as its desire to find practical and concrete solutions and to achieve peace in Central America.

This morning I met with the Security Council president and the UN secretary general and also held some informal consultative meetings with the nonaligned members of the UN Security Council, a total of eight countries. I expressed our government's concern over the prevailing situation and the fact that it has grown worse in the last few days because of the new techniques and methods being used by the Reagan administration through the Central Intelligence Agency.

I also told them that if this situation continues, or if it is maintained at the current worsened level, we would probably find ourselves forced to request a meeting of the UN Security Council in the immediate future. I said that I wanted to let them know this right away.

They said, the president of the Council in particular said, that if we make that decision at a given moment because we think that the situation is extremely dangerous he, as Council president, will be willing to cooperate with us in every way possible in calling for such a meeting as soon as possible. Also, during my consultations with the nonaligned members at the Council, they expressed their broad understanding of the situation and demonstrated their desire to cooperate with Nicaragua's efforts to avoid war in the area and to take concrete steps both at the UN Security Council and the Nonaligned Movement.

On Thursday afternoon, there will be a meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau, which is headquartered here in New York, and we will broadly outline the prevailing situation, the level of the aggression for the last few months, and the new developments in the last 2 weeks reflected in the air and sea attacks on our ports. We are sure that on this occasion our movement will know how to express its support for Nicaragua's peace efforts and will reject and condemn the mining of our ports and the sort of actions tht are being carried out at this moment. We believe that at Thursday's meeting our movement will express its views on the matter in a communique. [end recording]

DEFENSE MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ON SHIP INCIDENTS

PA140400 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0245 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Communique issued by the Defense Ministry Public and International Relations Directorate on 13 March in Managua]

[Text] The Defense Ministry announces that, in order to investigate the causes of the terrorist explosions which damaged the ships Geopotes VI and Los Caribes, the Defense Ministry appointed a commission which has made the following report:

1. In regard to the ship Geopotes VI: A) At 1645 on 1 March 1984, it sustained damage due to a pressure wave caused by an external explosion. B) The explosion occurred at some distance from the ship so that the pressure wave slightly dented the ship's hull but did not pierce it. C) The explosion occurred when the ship was returning to Corinto, going through buoys 1 and 2. D) The explosives were placed deep in the water so that the pressure wave came upward, and they were detonated either by accoustics or the ship's draft.

2. In regard to the ship Los Caribes: A) At 2310 on 7 March 1984, the ship was also damaged by a pressure wave caused by an external explosion at some distance from the ship, so that the pressure wave only dented the hull but did not pierce it. B) The explosion occurred when the ship was sailing from Corinto, going through buoys 3 and 4. C) The explosive charge was placed deep so that the pressure wave came upward from the sea, and it was detonated either by accoustics or the ship's draft.

RAMIREZ ON AGGRESSION, CIA ACTIVITIES, ELECTIONS

PA140413 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 8 Mar 84 p 9

[Excerpts] Sergio Ramirez Mercado last night said: "Nicaragua is currently a victim of an increased war by the CIA, which uses the Somozist counterrevolutionaries and traitors as a cover, both in Honduras and in Costa Rica." Ramirez participated in a press conference given by Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, after meeting with FRG Foreign Affairs Commission members at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center.

Regarding the "traitor Pastora," Ramirez said that the CIA "is giving him" electronic mines "so that he may place them in our ports. Perhaps he is not placing them himself; he could be allowing the use of his name for propaganda's sake. Meanwhile, children, soldiers, and peasants are being murdered daily by the CIA."

He asserted that CIA violence equals Reagan's verbal violence of yesterday, when he spoke at an Evangelical Congress in Ohio and said: "The Sandinist regime is responsible for the expulsion of Jews from Nicaragua, the closure of their synagogues, the incarceration of hundreds of evangelical pastors, and the persecution of thousands of Catholic priests."

Likewise, Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto said: "Our protest notes to the Honduran Government about the latest attacks have received no satisfactory reply, because the Honduran Government always denies the facts." He added that U.S. Secretary of State Shultz "did not reply to our protest note about the mines placed by CIA mercenaries at the port of El Bluff."

Regarding the increase of naval attacks on Nicaragua, the foreign minister said: "They are playing with fire" because the Honduran Army and the U.S. Army in particular are becoming increasingly involved, and "this increases the danger of a conflict on a larger-scale."

Referring to diplomatic relations with Costa Rica, Ramirez Mercado said that there might be some tension, "but never to the point of a breaking in relations." He explained that neither the Costa Rican Government nor people are responsible for this tension, "and the Nicaraguan people must be made clearly aware of this."

He added that the CIA is responsible for this artificial tension. "Costa Rica itself is being attacked by the CIA-owned Radio Impacto, and by the counterrevolutionary radio station." It is the U.S. Government that makes possible the "counterrevolution's political organization" in Costa Rica.

Finally, regarding the opposition parties' request that the government lift the state of emergency, he said that Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas dealt with the subject quite well in comments to LA PRENSA, and "we cannot disregard these attacks or the deaths of our children." He added that "the government is willing to allow the elections to be held, but it will never endanger the country's stability and internal security."

STATE COUNCIL APPROVES 139 ELECTORAL ARTICLES

PA142113 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The State Council has thus far approved 139 articles. Some 17 more must be approved before the State Council ends its debates on the electoral law. We can report that the council has allocated 6 million cordobas to finance the political campaign expenditures of each party. Article 16 decrees that the state will allocate 6 million cordobas to finance the expenditures of each party or alliance participating in the elections.

Each party or alliance will be entitled to withdraw 1.5 million cordobas for its presidential and vice presidential campaigns and 4.5 million cordobas for the National Assembly representative campaigns. No party or alliance will be allowed to draw on the first amount if it does not have presidential or vice presidential candidates. Each party will be entitled to withdraw [words indistinct] for each representative candidate. In either case, the parties are responsible for carrying out their respective election campaigns.

The funds allocated by this article will be distributed by the Supreme Electoral Council. If a party or alliance decides to withdraw from the elections after having received its campaign allocations, it must return the allotment within 1 month of withdrawing. A party or alliance that fails to do so will be penalized in accordance with the law.

Parties or alliances that receive donations from abroad must report them to the Central Bank and must inform the Supreme Electoral Council of the amount of foreign exchange they will use to make purchases abroad. Parties must report campaign donations from within the country to the Supreme Electoral Council.

ARCHBISHOP EXPLAINS CHURCH POSITION ON ELECTIONS

PA150001 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1747 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Article by Jesus Montesinos]

[Text] Managua, 14 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Archbishop Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo has told ACAN-EFE that the Catholic Church will not campaign for any political party but "will instruct Christians to vote for those who will give the church ample leeway to carry out its evangelical mission." The archbishop of Managua said that in the 4 November elections Christians must vote in such a manner as to ensure that "the country's destiny will be led by a man who is willing to serve the people, the poor, to serve everyone, not just a small group."

Msgr Obando, who is one of the prelates most criticized by the Sandinist government, said: "The Nicaraguan Church will shed light to allow the people to identifiy that complete man, that man who will work for the people's collective good and respect human rights." The archbishop of Managua is considered the most moderate representative of the Catholic Church in Nicaragua.

In contrast, Msgr Pablo Antonio Vega, the current president of the Episcopal Conference, has been described by priests as "more dynamic."

Msgr Obando told ACAN-EFE that for the current situation, which he described as "serious and alarming," to be overcome, "a national dialogue and Nicaragua's domestic and foreign peace" are required. He pointed out: "For this peace to be achieved, however, the feeling that Nicaragua is trying to export its revolution and the fear resulting from Nicaragua's display of arms must disappear." Commenting on the dialogue between the church and the Sandinists, Msgr Obando reaffirmed that it should exist, "as long as we maintain our own identity." Commenting on the laws regulating the current political process, Msgr Obando said: "The conditions are not right. The people are not familiar with the programs. They are familiar with only one of the voting options. Freedom of speech must be allowed soon."

Political party leaders have acknowledged that, other than the FSLN, the church is the only organization that currently has great influence on the people throughout the country.

The harshest criticism of Msgr Obando has always come in veiled form from Interior Minister Tomas Borge.

According to the archbishop of Managua, there is pluralism, with one conciliatory faction in addition to hard-line currents within the FSLN. The prelate said: "We are interested in seeing develop within the government the current that would allow the church to have greater opportunities to evangelize."

A year after the pope's visit to Nicaragua, the archbishop outlined the positive results of that trip, saying that "it clarified ideas for many paople and the seed that he sowed is germinating in many hearts."

OPPOSITION DELEGATES TOUR COSTA RICA, VENEZUELA

PA142246 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board has sent delegations to Costa Rica and Venezuela to explain the Board's ideas on what is needed in Nicaragua to hold free elections. The rightist parties' delegations include Luis Rivas Leiva, secretary general of the Social Democratic Party and president of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board; Carlos Huembes, secretary general of the CTN [Nicaraguan Workers Federation]; and Ramiro Gurdian, president of UPANIC [Agricultural and Livestock Producers Union of Nicaragua] and a member of COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise].

In Costa Rica, these members of the opposition will explain to government sectors, political parties, and private and union organizations the reasons for their withdrawal last Thursday from the State Council, where the electoral law is being discussed. Once their propaganda campaign in San Jose, Costa Rica, has concluded, the members of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board and COSEP's Gurdian will go on to Venezuela with the same purpose of explaining what they believe a real electoral process in Nicaragua should be.

Democratic Coordinating Board spokesmen have said that the delegation will base its explanations on the document "A Step Toward Democracy, Free Elections" ["Un Paso Hacia la Democracia, Elecciones Libres"] signed on 24 December 1983.

One of the points underscored by the Democratic Coordinating Board in this document refers to the participation of leaders of the counterrevolution in a national dialogue between the opposition and the FSLN.

ARDE CLAIMS ATTACK ON EPS FORCE IN PENAS BLANCAS

PA142342 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Communique released by the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Armed Forces General Command, signed by Commander Eden Pastora in (Saratiqui), Nicaragua, on 13 March]

[Text] The ARDE Armed Forces General Command informs the people of Nicaragua and the peoples of the world that:

This morning, 13 March 1984, squads from the Gaspar Garcia Laviana Southwestern Front attacked the military positions of Managua's Marxist-Leninist regime located in Penas Blancas and surrounding areas. The Sandinist People's Army, EPS, suffered many casualties and much damage was caused.

In an attempt to prevent distortion of the truth by the Managua Government, ARDE reports that this morning's activities occurred in Nicaragua. When the attacks ended, the ARDE squads withdrew to their positions in the liberated areas of Nicaragua.

Without totalitarianism or a return to the past!

REPORTAGE ON RAMIREZ MERCADO'S VISIT TO IRAN

For Tehran coverage of the visit to Iran by Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, see the Iran section of the 15 March South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PROVINCE GIVES PRIORITY TO DEFENSE, HARVEST

FL142015 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The slogan Production and Defense has been reaffirmed during a plenum of the party's provincial committee in Sancti Spiritus by this committee's decision to give priority attention to the "Bastion 2 Sancti Spiritus 84" exercises and the successful completion of the current sugar harvest. Future tasks will be to improve military readiness and to prepare defense maneuvers and that will be held in June to perfect the entire system that enables us to face any imperialist attack successfully.

The Sancti Spiritus plenum of the party's provincial committee also assessed the results of the current sugar harvest and vowed to reach established goals, the highest in the history of that province. The meeting also emphasized economic activity for the special period [not further identified] and the need for military committees to have maximum control of means, men, and equipment.

WAR DEFENSE ZONES REQUIRE ADVANCE PLANNING

FL141855 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] The peaceful sounds of daily tranquillity -- traffic, factory whistles calling people to work, and Young Pioneers singing and chanting as they march to school -- are suddenly interrupted by a traitorous enemy attack. The defense zones are immediately activated.

What are defense zones? Defense zones are the necessary link between the municipality and the masses during wartime. They permit the forging of a common will and the ability to act as a single body in any situation. These zones also permit the directing and controlling of all economic, political, social, and defense activities in each part of the nation. Defense zones are the smallest division, after the municipal districts, and through them the masses are directed and organized during wartime.

Defense zones are organized during peacetime and activated when a state of war is declared. The zones guarantee that organized, autonomous, and if necessary, independent defense effort exists in any given area. This permits each part of the country to mobilize and act as the situation necessitates, whether it is attacked, invaded, or even occupied.

In order for a defense zone to be successful, it is necessary that planning measures be carried out during peacetime so that when the time comes, high command orders are not left unimplemented. This could easily happen in the event of a massive surprise enemy attack.

The combined actions of the defense zones are organized by the Councils of Municipal Defense and by the planning engineers who handle matters pertaining to factories, the building of shelters, tunnels, and camouflaging. These matters must be planned to perfection during peactime. The advance completion of these tasks insures that the defense zones can be activated in the least amount of time if war erupts, thereby guaranteeing the zones' effectiveness.

The defense zones are directed by a committee of five people selected in advance. Each citizen, organization, and association within the area is subordinate to it.

During the "Bastion 83" strategic maneuvers, the defense zones demonstrated how efficient and practical they are for carrying out FAR mobilizations and operations, protecting the population, neutralizing any type of criminal activity, conducting evacuations, and deconcentrating and protecting supplies of fuel and basic foodstuffs, among other tasks.

The defense zones guarantee the observance of Army General Raul Castro's orders: to make war a battle which, historically, no aggressor has won because there isn't an army that can face an entire population, and to make the frontline wherever the enemy is.

AGRICULTURALISTS ASSIST INDUSTRIES IN ANGOLA

FL141955 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Malanje Province, Angola, is described as having the most fertile land in the nation. It is also the area where 47 Cuban agricultural internationalists are working. Some of the main products grown in this area are manioc, corn, cotton, vegetables, and fruit.

As in the other 17 Angolan provinces, a national emergency plan is being implemented in order to strengthen state-owned companies, cooperatives, and farmers associations, making this sector of the economy more dynamic. Patricio Sanchez, head of the Cuban work force has said that in Malanje his group is giving technical assistance to a wide range of industries in areas such as agriculture, veterinary medicine, and agricultural machinery.

ARGENTINES TO DISCUSS TRADE, INDUSTRIAL ISSUES

FL141915 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Argentine Secretary of Commerce Ricardo Campero arrived in our country today. He is heading a large delegation which includes officials, businessmen, and performers who will participate in the Internatioanl Tango Festival to be held here.

The Argentine delegation will meet with Cuban ministers and vice ministers involved in economics. The agenda of these meetings includes trade exchange topics, maritime transportation, and industrial matters.

NICARAGUAN STUDENTS MEET VISITING UNION LEADERS

FL142030 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The 331 Nicaraguan students who are attending an emergency course at the Frank Pais Teachers' School in Santiago de Cuba have held a meeting with union leaders from their country who are visiting that city. During the meeting, the youths of that sister nation praised the fantastic attention they are receiving at the school, and expressed a willingness to teach in the most difficult places in Nicaragua and to give their internationalist help to El Salvador when that country rids itself of its oppressive yoke.

Meanwhile, the union leaders urged the students to assimilate the lessons they are learning because the mission they will fulfill in their country will be one of the most beautiful of the Sandinist revolution.

The Nicaraguan youths studying in Santiago de Cuba are members of the 50th Sandino Death Anniversary Brigade and are training to become primary school teachers.

## ALEGRETT VIEWS LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC CRISIS

FL142035 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Venezuela's Sebastian Alegrett, SELA's executive secretary, has stated that the situation in Latin America is becoming more critical each day. Alegrett, who met with Panamanian President Jorge Illueca in Panama, said that there must be a change in the relationship between the Latin American nations and the centers of international finance. He added that Latin America's worst problem is its $340 billion debt which includes $45 billion annually in interest charges.

Alegrett emphasized that a significant part of Latin America's economic crisis is caused by the industrialized nations' protectionist measures, which check the nations' possibilities for exporting their products.

## U.S. ESCALATES ACTIVITIES IN CENTRAL AMERICA

FL141615 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] U.S. Navy warships, led by the aircraft carrier "America," are nearing the coast of Central America, and U.S. military reconnaisance flights over Salvadoran territory are increasing. It has also been reported that there is an increased concentration of Yankee and Honduran troops on the Salvadoran borders.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan has urgently requested more than $90 million in economic aid to El Salvador. It was also reported that a continuous flow of modern military supplies has begun arriving on Salvadoran territory.

All of these imperialistic, aggressive actions are an effort to increase pressure at the onset of the Salvadoran elections. The electoral farce which will take place on 25 March, because of Washington, will be an attempt to somehow counter the guerrillas' struggle. The FMLN has stated that the Salvadoran, Honduran, and U.S. regimes are preparing a joint operation. A military maneuver will be used as a pretext for deploying a massive counterrinsurgency operation.

In spite of this, the guerrilla forces have not reduced their revolutionary activities and fighting continues throughout most of El Salvador. Guerrilla forces disbanded two military companies in Cabanas Province during the last few hours.

Washington is simultaneously increasing tension on the Nicaraguan borders. New raids by counterrevolutionaries and Honduran military attacks against Sandino's nation are part of this aggressive escalation of activities. These actions in Central America indicate that Washington intends to try to impose its interests on the region by force.

### Poses Serious Threat

FL141857 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Today the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee will discuss President Ronald Reagan's request to finance the Nicaraguan counterrevolution with an additional $21 million.

The Appropriations Committee, which rejected the petition last week because it was included in other domestic requests, will not have any apparent objections because this request strictly conforms to Yankee tradition.

The Reagan administration, through the CIA, has been financing the Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries from the beginning and is supporting and encouraging them in all kinds of criminal activities. This new injection of dollars is linked to the escalation of U.S. aggression in the area and is a serious threat to the Nicaraguan people.

It has been learned that the United States has sent a large contingent of troops to the border between Honduras and El Salvador under the pretext of intimidating guerrillas, but the possibility of a direct Yankee intervention in the conflict is increasingly stronger.

In view of these maneuvers and games of imperialism, there is a need for the urgent solidarity of all the peace-loving peoples of the world. The use of Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and Honduran soldiers as a spearhead for an attack on Nicaragua or El Salvador would undoubtedly lead to widespread conflict in Central America, with unpredictable consequences for world peace.

The United States has converted Honduras into a large base set up to launch operations against El Salvador and the Sandinist revolution with U.S. personnel and military equipment.

The Yankee arrogance, encouraged after its intervention in small Grenada, has prepared the conditions for a new aggression, disregarding the peace efforts of the Contadora Group, the peace initiatives of the FMLN, and the repeated requests to hold talks to achieve a political settlement.

The Government of the Junta of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, through Commander Daniel Ortega, has warned the world of the danger of the U.S. attitude and asked the Nicaraguan people not to raise their hopes for a peaceful solution, but to prepare themselves to face and defeat an imperialist intervention.

## FMLN Cited on Threat

PA142303 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 13 Mar 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The FMLN has criticized the most recent and dangerous U.S. threats of direct intervention in El Salvador, and has asked the Salvadoran people to heroically resist the aggressors. The Salvadoran revolutionary organization has fully reported the U.S. preparations for a large-scale counterinsurgency operation coordinated with Honduran troops. The prime evidence of this plan is the concentration of U.S. and Honduran troops near the Salvadoran border and the imminent arrival of the U.S. aircraft carrier "America" off the coast of Central America. These provocative and aggressive moves are made worse by the increase in espionage flights over Salvadoran territory, which have been carried out by U.S. airplanes coming from the Panama Canal area.

Meanwhile, President Ronald Reagan has met with the Honduran and Costa Rican foreign ministers in Washington, and has increased his pressure on the U.S. Congress to urgently approve an additional $93 million credit for military aid to El Salvador. According to Reagan, the Salvadoran regime's troops have used all their ammunition and will be unable to withstand the guerrillas' onslaught if this military aid is not immediately received.

Due to the worsened Central American situation, provoked by the U.S. imperialists, the FMLN issued a communique that points out the following: As the FMLN controls most of the Salvadoran territory near the Honduran border, the deployment of U.S. troops to the Honduran-Salvadoran border is a direct act of aggression against our people and a provocation of our military forces.

The FMLN has made every possible political effort to stop the intervention and avoid its ominous consequences for the Central America people and the U.S. people themselves, who will be unable to avoid their share of bloodshed because of the adventuristic policy followed by President Reagan's administration.

The communique adds: In view of these aggressive acts, the FMLN warns that it will defend the people's interests and the national sovereignty. It hereby rejects the absurd argument that no defined borders exist, which is used as a justification to invade our people and attack our forces.

The FMLN points out: If the presence of U.S. troops near the border is a move to intimidate us, we will retaliate by escalating the war until we win, even though we will have to fight and defeat the invading U.S. troops and the U.S. puppets of the Honduran Army, or of any other nation that decides to join the attack.

The communique urgently concludes: The FMLN asks all its members to prepare to fight the invading troops, and it alerts the Salvadoran, Central American, and U.S. people and the entire international community to the generalized military confrontation that the U.S. Government is unleashing in El Salvador and Central America. President Ronald Reagan, whose adventuristic policy has already caused much concern and international tension, is still playing a dangerous game with world peace. He threatens other nations of the world, and these threats also represent a grave danger for the U.S. people, because they will undoubtedly become victims of their irresponsible President's warmongering adventures.

## NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS CITED ON U.S. AGGRESSION

### Ortega Details Terrorist Acts

PA142153 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, has read a message to the people of Nicaragua in which he rejected the dangerous aggression by the U.S. Government in Central America, and pointed out the possibility of a military invasion of El Salvador and Nicaragua.

The text of the message, which was sent to heads of state and government, international organizations, political parties, and solidarity organizations all over the world, details the latest terrorist actions to which Nicaragua has been subjected. It warns that these actions coincide with the transfer of thousands of U.S. troops to Honduras, and the deployment of U.S. warships to the Central American coasts, which constitute a threatening deployment of forces only 5 months after the invasion of Grenada.

Commander Ortega said that the same forces that disembarked on that Caribbean island are now being sent to the border between Honduras and El Salvador, [words indistinct] to the U.S. Army 82d Airborne Division. The communique stresses that Washington's attitude lessens the possibilities of peace and encourages the warmongering tendencies of those who are against a political solution of the Central American crisis.

In this regard, the message demands that the U.S. Government take serious steps toward promoting political solutions to the Salvadoran conflict. The message read in Managua by Ortega warns the Nicaraguan people not to hold false expectations and to continue preparing and strengthening themselves in order to face and defeat the imperialist aggression and intervention.

Ortega asked other governments of the world to help Nicaragua obtain the technical and military means to defend itself against the terrorism unleashed by the United States. The Nicaraguan Government message was sent to -- among other organizations -- the Nonaligned Movement, the United Nations, and the Contadora Group.

Javier Chamorro, Nicaraguan ambassador to the United Nations, met at the UN headquarters with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Security Council Secretary Javier Arias Stella to report on the escalating aggression organized by the United States against this Central American country, and to express his concern over the worsening of the already tense situation in the area. During a meeting that Chamorro also held today with the group of nonaligned countries in the Security Council, he discussed the possibility of calling an urgent meeting of this body in order to control the dangerous escalation of aggression against Nicaragua.

Union Leader Urges Alertness

PA142336 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Nicaraguan union leader Leopoldo Tablada has urged all Latin American workers to be alert and reject any U.S. aggression against the Central American peoples. Tablada, member of the Nicaraguan Labor Coordination Organization's directorate, asserted in the Bolivian city of La Paz that the Nicaraguan workers will not disappoint the world -- which has offered them its solidarity -- and will defend every inch of the national territory.

In a statement to the news agency PRELA, Leopoldo Tablada asserted that the danger mentioned yesterday by Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, is real. He added that the U.S. threat seems to represent the last card to be played by U.S. imperialism.

NICARAGUAN BORDER POSTS HARASSED FROM COSTA RICA

FL130224 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2125 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Mercenary forces attacked the Nicaraguan border post of Penas Blancas today, according to the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry. The forces attacked from Costa Rica with mortars and M-70 grenade launchers.

A note to the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry states that an unknown number of mercenaries attacked Penas Blancas, the main border post in southern Nicaragua, wounding one of the Frontier Guards, Reinaldo Salvatierra Diez. The message adds that yesterday at 0545 a group of 20 counterrevolutionaries fired on (Los Chiles) post from Costa Rica, using rifles and grenade launchers. This post is located 27 kilometers southwest of San Carlos, Rio San Juan Department. The preceding day, 11 March, at 0600 border installations in Papaturro were fired upon

The note says that while denouncing these provocative acts by forces that seek to affect the neutrality proclaimed by the Government of Costa Rica, Nicaragua reiterates its request that the Costa Rican authorities take measures necessary to prevent and eradicate such acts. The note also states Nicaragua's desire to cooperate in whatever way necessary to reestablish normality along its common border with Costa Rica.

KIDNAPPINGS, HARASSMENT REPORTED IN GUATEMALA

FL141555 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1204 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Guatemala's National Committee of Trade Union Unity [CNUS] has reported the kidnapping of Mengever Miranda, a construction worker, in Guatemala City. CNUS reported that spokesmen and leaders of the Construction Workers Union stated that heavily armed men, dressed in civilian clothes, arrested Miranda at his home in early February. The union noted that the harassment of union members has increased in the past few months with murders, the dismissal of workers, and the closing of businesses.

It was also learned in Guatemala City that two other people, Jose Maria Gonzalez and Luz Haydee Mendez de Santizo, were kidnapped. In both cases, eyewitnesses said that the victims were forcibly taken from their homes. However, according to officials, this was part of an investigation.

HONDURAS FORCES REPATRIATION OF SALVADORANS

FL142050 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1904 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The Honduran regime is forcing the repatriation of Salvadorans who have settled in that country fleeing the repression prevailing in El Salvador. Reports from Tegucigalpa state that 173 refugees were repatriated to El Salvador last week and that a similar number will meet the same fate in coming days.

For several months the Honduran regime has been preparing for the relocation of some 10,000 Salvadorans who settled in Mesa Grande and Colomoncagua to the valley of Olanchito, some 250 kms north of the border.

The majority of the refugees are forced to accept the decision because the Honduran Government is claiming that the move is a security measure due to the military maneuvers it will soon conduct with U.S. forces.

CHILEAN OPPOSITION LEADERS ON PINOCHET AMENDMENT

FL141643 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Chile will be on the road to a new and dangerous form of dictatorship if President Augusto Pinochet acquires the constitutional power enabling him to organize a referendum, political opposition leaders have warned. On Sunday General Pinochet proposed an amendment to the Constitution, which he enacted 3 years ago, which would enable him to call for public debate at any time.

CHILEAN POLICE ARREST PROTESTERS IN PUNTA ARENAS

PA150120 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] More than 60 persons have been arrested by policemen of Augusto Pinochet's regime during demonstrations in the city of Punta Arenas. The arrests took place when hundreds of persons gathered in front of the headquarters of the National Petroleum Command and demanded the release of union leader (Jose Ruiz de Giorgio), who was arrested last month.

In Santiago, the military court has issued a warrant for the arrest of two of the four persons who sought asylum in the nunciature last January. The Chilean regime's military court has accused Jose Hector Aguilera and Pamela del Carmen Cordero of killing a policeman, as a legal ploy to deny them the safe-conduct requested by the nuncio's office.

Meanwhile, Costa Rica yesterday granted political asylum to Cecilia Suarez, leader of the Chilean Socialist Party, who sought refuge at the Costa Rican Embassy in Santiago on Monday. The Chilean military court had issued an arrest warrant against the 27-year-old woman, who is charged with participating in subversive activities.

M-19 ATTACKS COLOMBIAN TOWN, FREES PRISONERS

FL142220 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2104 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Forces of the 19 April Movement (M-19) of Colombia today attacked the city of Florencia, located in the southern province of Caqueta. Street fights were still continuing at 1100 according to a dispatch from Bogota.

A report from the Colombian Ministry of National Defense stated that the guerrillas first attacked the city jail to free a large group of prisoners, and then attacked several banks including the Bank of the Republic. Early reports state that at least four persons have been killed and many others wounded, although the exact number of wounded is still undetermined.

The mayor of the Colombian city of Florencia, (Alvaro Rubiano), has decreed a curfew. Describing the situation as extremely grave, he said we do not know what is happening because we cannot leave the office.

POLICE REPRESS DOMINICAN STUDENT DEMONSTRATION

FL141550 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1204 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Santo Domingo -- Dominican police, armed with tear gas bombs and clubs, have repressed a demonstration of thousands of university students who were protesting the high cost of living in the country. According to preliminary reports, dozens of students were arrested and an undetermined number were injured in the protest, which was organized by the Federation of Dominican Students. We have orders to prevent street demonstrattions and we are going to enforce them, a police officer told the press.

The clashes with police occurred near the Santo Domingo Autonomous University, the largest in the Dominican Republic with a student population of 70,000.

## VENEZUELA'S AD PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON VISIT

FL141800 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 9 Mar 84 pp 1, 13

[Article by Guillermo Gomez]

[Excerpts] Airport of the Americas -- Gonzalo Barrio, president of Venezuela's Democratic Action Party [AD], yesterday said that the conditions "preached by the IMF and which it tries to impose on its debtor countries are unacceptable," and that his country has rejected them thus far. Barrio, who is also a senator in the Venezuelan Congress, spoke with reporters moments after his arrival at the airport to begin a visit at the invitation of the government headed by President Salvador Jorge Blanco.

The AD president said that the IMF is not taking the nations' situation into consideration and that this is quite serious. The Venezuelan political leader added that the IMF imposes grave restrictions and sacrifices on debtor countries, "which I don't believe any country can endure." Barrio said that these are the reasons he does not favor negotiating with the IMF, based on the restrictions which Venezuela rejects. He noted that in spite of this his country is holding talks with the IMF, but, in the end, these negotiations will depend on the conditions it imposes.

Hatuey Decamps, secretary of the Presidency, welcomed Barrio on behalf of President Jorge Blanco. Bienvenido Hazim Egel, Dominican ambassador to Venezuela, Deputies Falcon Briceno and Armando Sanchez, and Senator Jesus Antonio Usiche accompanied the Venezuelan senator. Luis Rodriguez Malaspina, Venezuelan ambassador to the Dominican Republic, also welcomed Barrio.

## BRIEFS

HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP -- The Dominican Human Rights Committee [Comite Dominicano de los Derechos Humanos -- CDH] will open its main offices on Saturday in a ceremony scheduled for 1700 in Santo Domingo. This was announced in an invitation put out by Alcides B. Decena Lugo and Ramon B. Martinez Portorreal, CDH president and executive secretary, respectively. [Summary] [Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 25 Feb 84 p 6 C FL]

## OECS TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF CBI OPPORTUNITIES

FL141750 Bridgetown CANA in English 1512 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, March 14 (CANA) -- The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) says it is moving to take full advantage of opportunities offered under the Washington-sponsored Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI).

OECS Director General Dr Vaughn Lewis, who is based here, says the organisation is exploring the possibility of establishing an export promotion agency to help the seven member states sell their goods in the North American market. "Our Economic Affairs Secretariat has been looking at the kinds of economic activities that our small and relatively disadvantaged countries...will be capable of pursuing to try and undertake sales into the North American market," Dr Lewis said.

In this context, he added, the Secretariat is also involved in the World Bank-sponsored Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development (CGCED).

"There are really two aspects to this: One is identifying particular products and the basis for investment in those products, and the other is providing our countries with the kind of infrastructure which will enable them to take advantage of the CBI," he said.

The director general said many of the OECS states do not have export promotion agencies, or offices in the U.S. concerned with the promotion of trade, "or we may have simply one office in a particular state of the U.S." Based on this deficiency, he said, "the OECS Secretariat has been co-ordinating with the Caricom Secretariat and technical officials of the Irish Export Board about the possibility of developing an export promotion agency for the OECS."

Dr Lewis said that the matter was considered by the Economic Affairs Committee at their meeting here in early February and discussions are continuing. He said OECS states were at a disadvantage when compared even with neighbouring countries like Barbados and Jamaica, which have mechanisms for the promotion of trade.

"These more developed islands have offices for trade and tourism in various parts of the United States, but we have very few of those institutions, so that there is little chance of identifying a whole system of market intelligence which some of the other Caricom states have begun to develop," he said. Dr Lewis said that in the months ahead, the Secretariat and member governments will have to move quickly to get assistance to develop those institutions, if these islands are to adequately take advantage of the CBI.

## JAMAICA

### PEARNEL CHARLES DISCUSSES DRUG SMUGGLING

FL121957 Bridgetown CANA in English 1613 GMT 12 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Kingston, Jamaica, March 12 (CANA) -- Jamaica's air, sea, and mail systems are infected with drug smuggling, and this is threatening to put severe strains on the island's relations with some of its "best neighbours", Public Utilities and Transport Minister Pearnel Charles has warned.

In fact, Charles told Associated Chambers of Commerce members here Sunday, the U.S. Customs was now moving to impose a fine of U.S. 25 dollars for every ounce of marijuana found on planes of the national carrier, Air Jamaica. Charles said that such action could cost the country "several hundred thousand dollars," but did not go into details, promising to make a fuller statement on this and incidents of sniffer dogs detecting marijuana in letters leaving the country.

"Because of the increasing incidence of drug-smuggling, Jamaica is walking a tight-rope in our relationship with some of our best neighbours," Charles told the businessmen. "Our communications system is infested with drugs."

The U.S. Government has also said that there is a high incidence of marijuana reaching the United States on ships sailing from Jamaica, including those of the state-owned line, Jamaica Merchant Marine.

Lamenting the fact that with the scores of illegal airstrips here "pilots can land and take-off almost at will" without anyone knowing what they are transporting, Charles warned that all exporters here who have proven connections with drug-trafficking would be dealt with firmly under the law. Passengers on aircraft who are found with drugs would be similarly dealt with, he said. He told the chamber members: "As businessmen and importers/exporters, you know that there are elements within your systems and within the country doing things that threaten to destroy our very way of life."

Saying that the government had a responsibility to stop the country becoming a trading ground for drugs, Charles declared it was ironic that the freedoms which Jamaicans upheld and cherished in their democracy were the "very freedoms being abused to destroy our democracy."

### SEAGA ANNOUNCES $25.7 MILLION JAPANESE LOAN

FL141930 Bridgetown CANA in English 1657 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 14 (CANA) -- Jamaica has announced finalisation of a 25.7 million (U.S.) dollar loan agreement with Japan to put 3,500 acres of new lands under coffee and for other developments in the industry. Jamaica is matching the Japanese loan with an input of 68.4 million dollars (one Jca dollar; 30 cents U.S.), Prime Minister Edward Seaga told Parliament Tuesday night.

Seaga had first announced the loan last April after a trip to Tokyo.

He told Parliament last night that Foreign Minister Hugh Shearer had concluded the negotiations during a Japanese visit in February. A formal agreement is expected this month.

The matter is being discussed today between the prime minister and Tokyo's non-resident ambassador to Jamaica, who is now in the island.

Apart from opening up new lands in the north-eastern parish of Portland, the project calls for the building of roads and other infrastructure and amenities to serve the populations in the area near to the development. Money will also be spent improving coffee finishing houses. Blue Mountain coffee, grown at high altitude, is considered among the finest in the world, fetching high prices. Jamaica sells its total production to Japan and Tokyo. Companies have also invested here under a government plan to put 10,000 new acres under the brand.

FORMER PRG OFFICIAL ON GRENADA INTERVENTION

FL142026 Bridgetown CANA in English 1822 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, March 14 (CANA) -- Richard Hart, the Jamaican lawyer who was the attorney general in the closing months of the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) in Grenada, last night criticised those Caribbean governments which he said had provided "fig leaf cover" for the U.S.-led intervention in the island.

Hart said that regional leaders who invited the invasion had used the killing -- by Grenada's Army -- of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop as well as others of his cabinet, and the feeling of revulsion that followed to act in subservience to imperialism without too much loss of credibility. "It was a most cynical act... I don't think those people have the slightest... love for Maurice Bishop," Hart declared at a function put on by the Jamaica Committee for the Defense of Human Rights in Grenada to mark the fifth anniversary of the revolution that had brought Bishop's leftwing New Jewel Movement (NJM) to power.

He said that all decent people would disapprove of the killing of Bishop and the others. Bishop was the victim of an ideological and leadership quarrel within the NJM. He had been placed under house arrest before being killed by soldiers who opened fire on a crowd that freed him from detention.

The U.S. intervened to put down the military leaders, also members of the NJM, who had assumed power during the crisis. The member countries of the Organisation of East Caribbean States (OECS), which joined with Jamaica and Barbados in calling for the U.S. intevention, said they had done so under the security clause of their treaty. But Hart said that the legal pretext of the invasion was "so shallow that it is hardly worth mentioning." These countries acted after they had failed at the wider Caribbean Community (Caricom) level to get agreement on an invasion. "It was a blatant piece of misuse of a treaty that was totally cynical and totally subservient to the interest of imperialism," Hart said.

Washington's assertion that it had gone into the island to save its citizens in a situation of anarchy and confusion was patently false, Hart argued. A de facto government had been formed by the military which had imposed a curfew -- admittedly draconian -- that was effective, Hart said. "Despite the feeling of anger, revulsion, and frustration, it probably did save the country from widespread demonstrations and violence that might have led to further loss of life," Hart added.

He also noted that American, Canadian, and British diplomats had been allowed into Grenada and assured that their citizens could leave if they wished, and that the head of the American medical university on the island had declared the students to be in no danger.

"The tragic events that led to the death of Maurice Bishop were used by people who were sitting in the wings to do something they always wanted to do," Hart said.

Both Hart and lawyer Langston Sibbles, who is in a team acting for detainees in Grenada, claimed that many prisoners have been beaten and tortured by persons hoping to extort confessions.

Meantime, former People's National Party (PNP) chairman Dudley Thompson, who announced this week that he was going to Grenada to attempt to join the defence team for the detainees, in a statement today made it clear that he had no brief for those "who murdered Maurice Bishop and the leadership of his government."

"I am not going as a politician but in my capacity as a lawyer, because I believe that those held for the killing of Bishop must be brought to justice speedily and others who have been detained be charged and tried," Thompson said.

Some lawyers who have tried to defend the detainees have been barred by the Grenadian authorities on technicalities. Thompson's announcement that he was joining the team had been greeted with some questions given the PNP's condemnation of Bishop's killing.

Said Thompson: "In the emotional response to the horrifying events that occurred in Grenada and based on whether we agreed or disagreed with the Bishop government's policy on detainees, many of us have developed a dangerous indifference to the question of human rights in that country.

"It is dangerous because, as responsible Caribbean people, we cannot allow emotionalism to permit precedents to be set for the erosion of the judicial system and the administration of justice in any party of the region."

MEDIA WORKERS ON COVERAGE OF GRENADA INTERVENTION

FL132310 Bridgetown CANA in English 1958 GMT 13 Mar 84

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, March 13 (CANA) -- The Suriname Association of Progressive Media Workers today accused the international media of having staged "a coordinated campaign" with the United States which, it said, led to the demise last year of the Grenada revolution.

The association comments came in a statement to mark the fifth anniversary of the leftist coup in Grenada that brought the late Prime Minister Maurice Bishop to power and launched what became known as the Grenada revolution. A leadership struggle within the island's lefwing government climaxed in the slaying of Bishop and half his cabinet in a military coup, triggering a U.S.-led invasion.

Commenting on the military intervention, the Suriname media workers said the international media had created "a smoke screen so that the truth is not immediately known... to justify what is the darkest page in the recent history of this hemisphere."

The Suriname Peace Committee, in a statement, condemned the intervention as "naked imperialist aggression" and said it was "glad" surviving members of the ousted New Jewel Movement (NJM) are "organising themselves again and are working with renewed energy in realizing the ideals of Maurice Bishop and his comrades."

Grenada and Suriname, which too has embarked on a revolution, developed a close relationship during Bishop's four and a half year rule.

Tonight the government-run National Information Service will telecast a special programme on Grenada on television to mark the anniversary of the coup.

DUTCH CREDIT SOCIETY TO STOP INSURING EXPORTS

FL141630 Hilversum International Service in English 1000 GMT 14 Mar 84

[Text] The Dutch Credit Insurance Society will no longer underwrite exports to Suriname. The decision was made because of the poor state of the Suriname economy.

According to the director of the Dutch Credit Insurance Society, Suriname has only been able to meet its financial obligations with the greatest difficulty. This has led to considerable reluctance on the part of Dutch business to trade with Suriname.

## PARAGUAY

### MARXIST EXPELLED AFTER SERVING SENTENCE

PY141700 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 14 Mar 84 p 13

[Text] Alfonso Silva Quintana, who was released by a judge after serving a 5-year prison sentence, has been expelled to Argentina. This information was supplied yesterday by sources at the Committee of Churches for Emergency Assistance, the institution that gave Silva support while he was serving his sentence at Tacumbu Prison.

According to available information, personnel of the Investigative Department of the police took Silva Quintana to Clorinda [Argentine border town Monday. Silva Quintana completed his sentence Wednesday, 7 March, but the court order releasing him from prison was not sent over until the next day.

From prison Silva was taken to the Investigative Department and from there to the Argentine border town. Silva had been in jail for 15 years, 10 of which he had spent at various police precincts awaiting trial. After being tried for alleged violation of Law 209, "on defense of public peace and individual freedom," he was sentenced, according to his lawyers, for the very same deeds that had kept him in jail for 10 years. Silva had said that he was a nonactive Marxist.

Silva's wife, Saturnina Almada, has also been tried for violations of Law 209. She served a 3-year prison term after spending 10 years in jail awaiting trial and was expelled to Brazil.

## VENEZUELA

### MEXICO'S PRESIDENT DE LA MADRID SCHEDULES VISIT

PA141705 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 8 Mar 84 p D-4

[Text] Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid will arrive in Caracas on 5 April for a 2-day visit. President De la Madrid will be coming from Bogota on a tour of several countries. He will hold two or three meetings with President Jaime Lusinchi at which they will discuss the Latin American situation with special emphasis on Central America, energy issues, bilateral and multilateral relations, and bilateral agreements, giving consideration to the possibility of arriving at additional agreements.

An advance group of Mexican officials arrived in Caracas yesterday, among whom are R. Bernal from the Foreign Relations Secretariat and officers of the Mexican Armed Forces, who visited the Miraflores Palace and were received by Brigadier General Victor Higuera Castellanos, chief of that military household.